

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

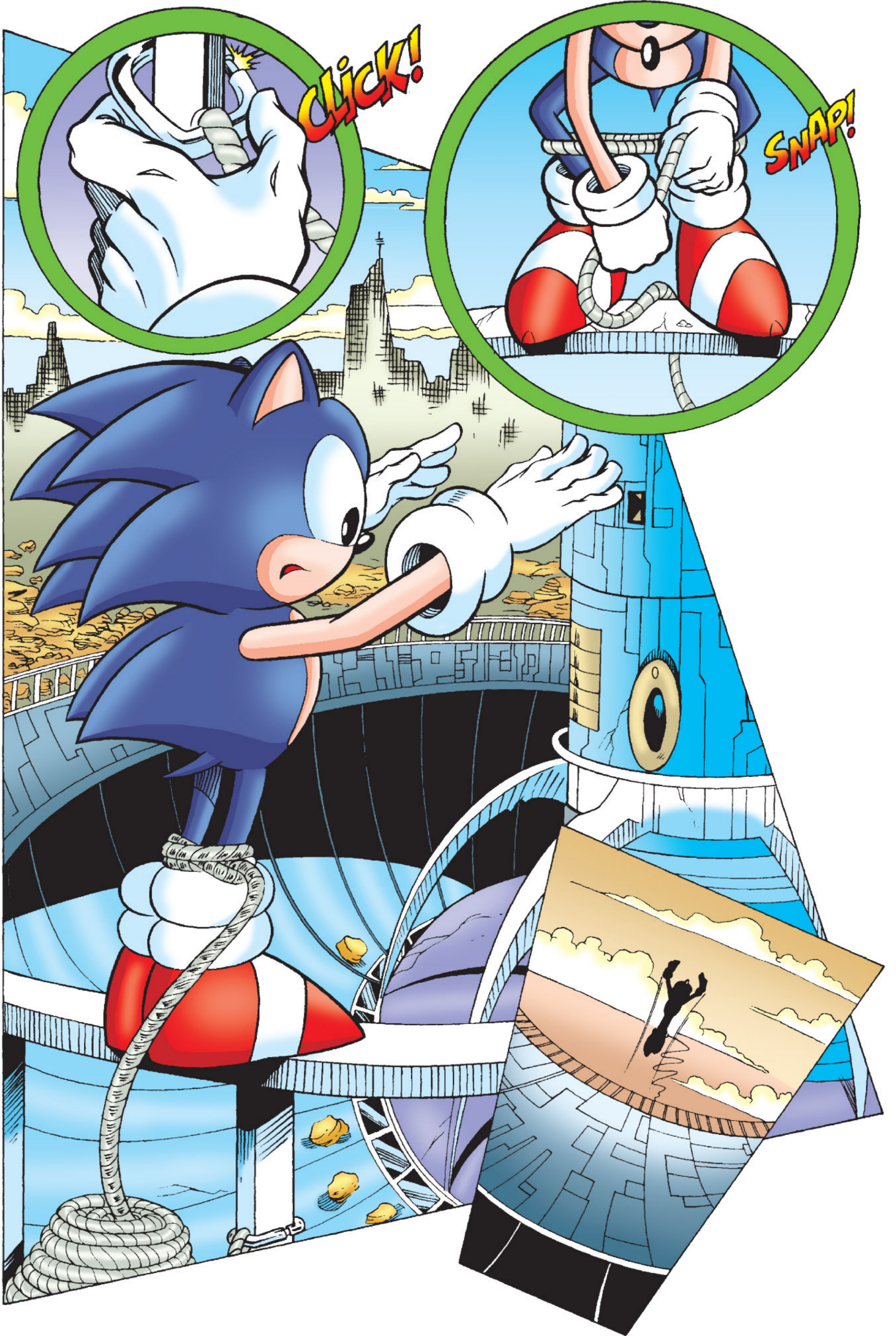
NO.41 | \$1.50
DEC.

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG™



ANTI-SPAZ-HARÓ



CLICK!

SNAP!

...and one shall save him!

Part I

KRAAAAASH!
SNAP!

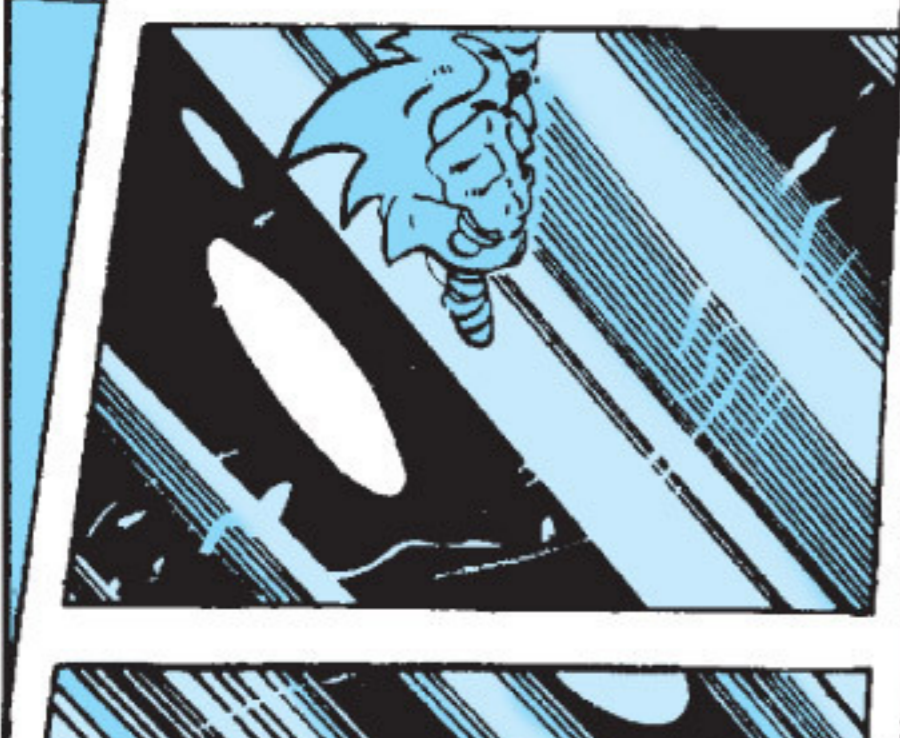
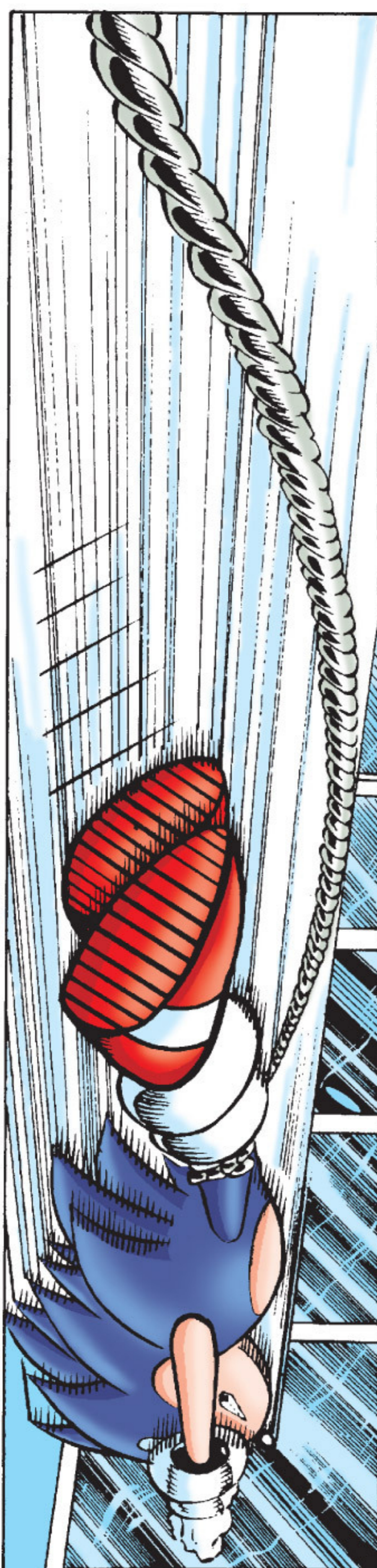
EGADS! IT'S

SONIC
THE
HEDGEHOG™

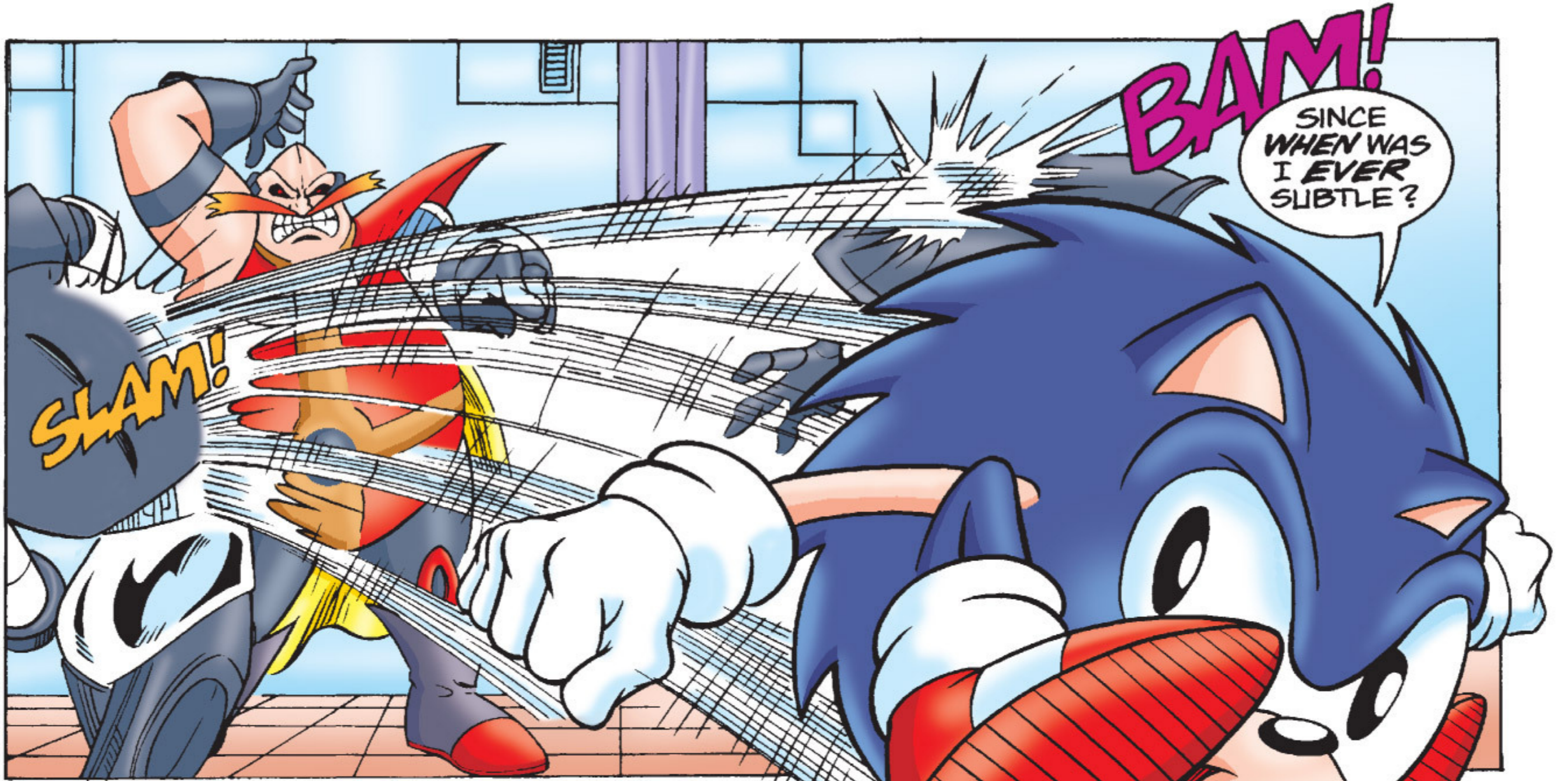
ONCE AGAIN!

YOU MUST THINK
YOU'RE SO GOLDEN--
EYEING ME LIKE
THIS!

I--
SPYING?



KEN PENDERS--WRITER
KYLE HUNTER--PENCILER
HARVO--INKER
VICKIE WILLIAMS--LETTERER
BARRY GROSSMAN--COLORIST
JUSTIN FREDDY GABRIE--
EDITOR
VICTOR GORELICK--
MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD GOLDWATER--
EDITOR IN CHIEF



SINCE WHEN WAS I EVER SUBTLE?

BAM!

SLAM!



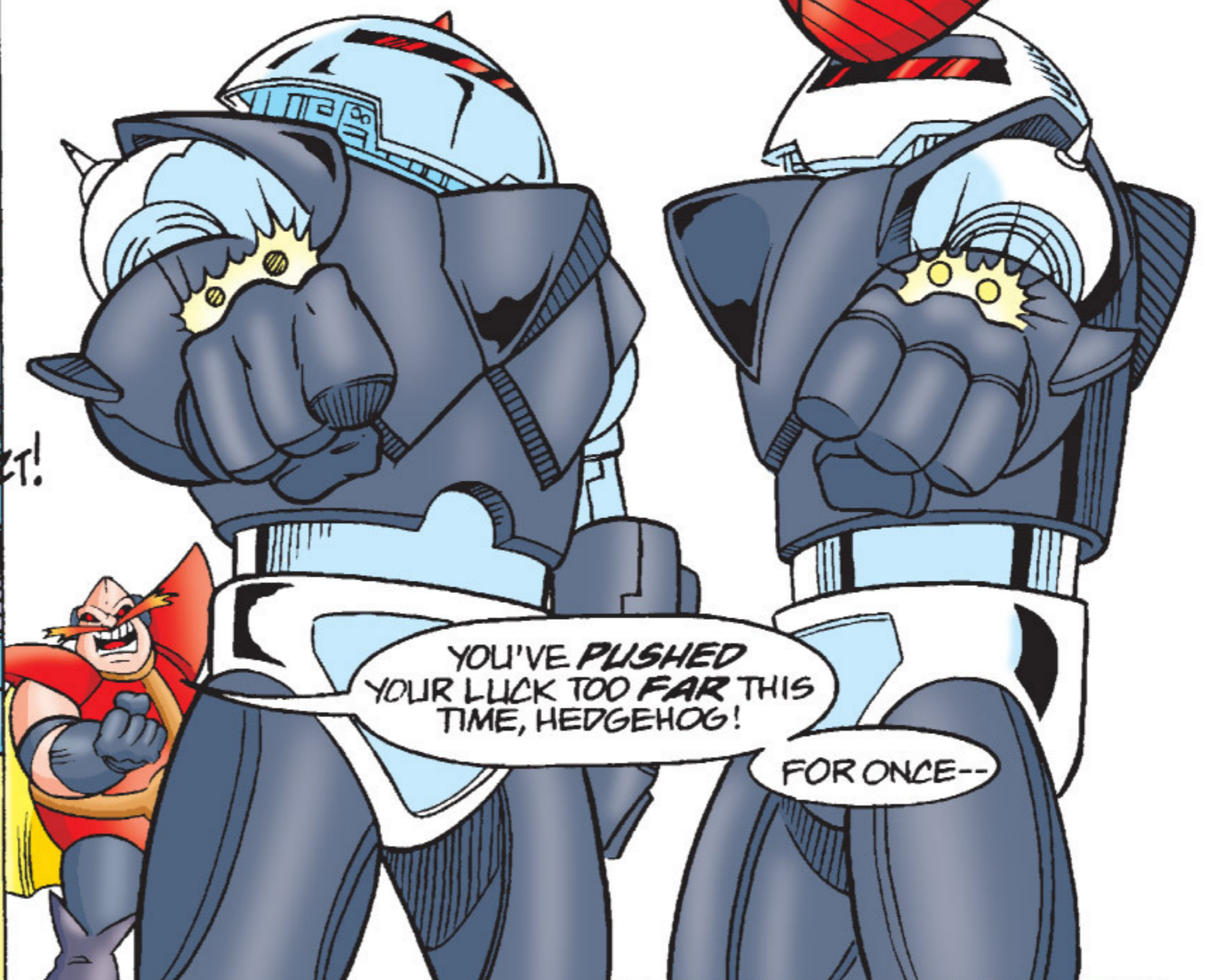
BESIDES, WITH ALL THE DAMAGE YOUR CITY'S BEEN HIT WITH*, ALL I NEED TO DO IS GET WHAT I CAME FOR, AND RUN!

TRYING TO BAG ME YOURSELF IS THE REAL TRICK!

* NOTHING AN EARTHQUAKE IN SONIC #37 AND A FEW BOMBS IN MECHA MADNESS SPECIAL #1 CAN'T TAKE CARE OF-- EDITOR.

CLICK!

BLZZT!



YOU'VE PUSHED YOUR LUCK TOO FAR THIS TIME, HEDGEHOG!

FOR ONCE--

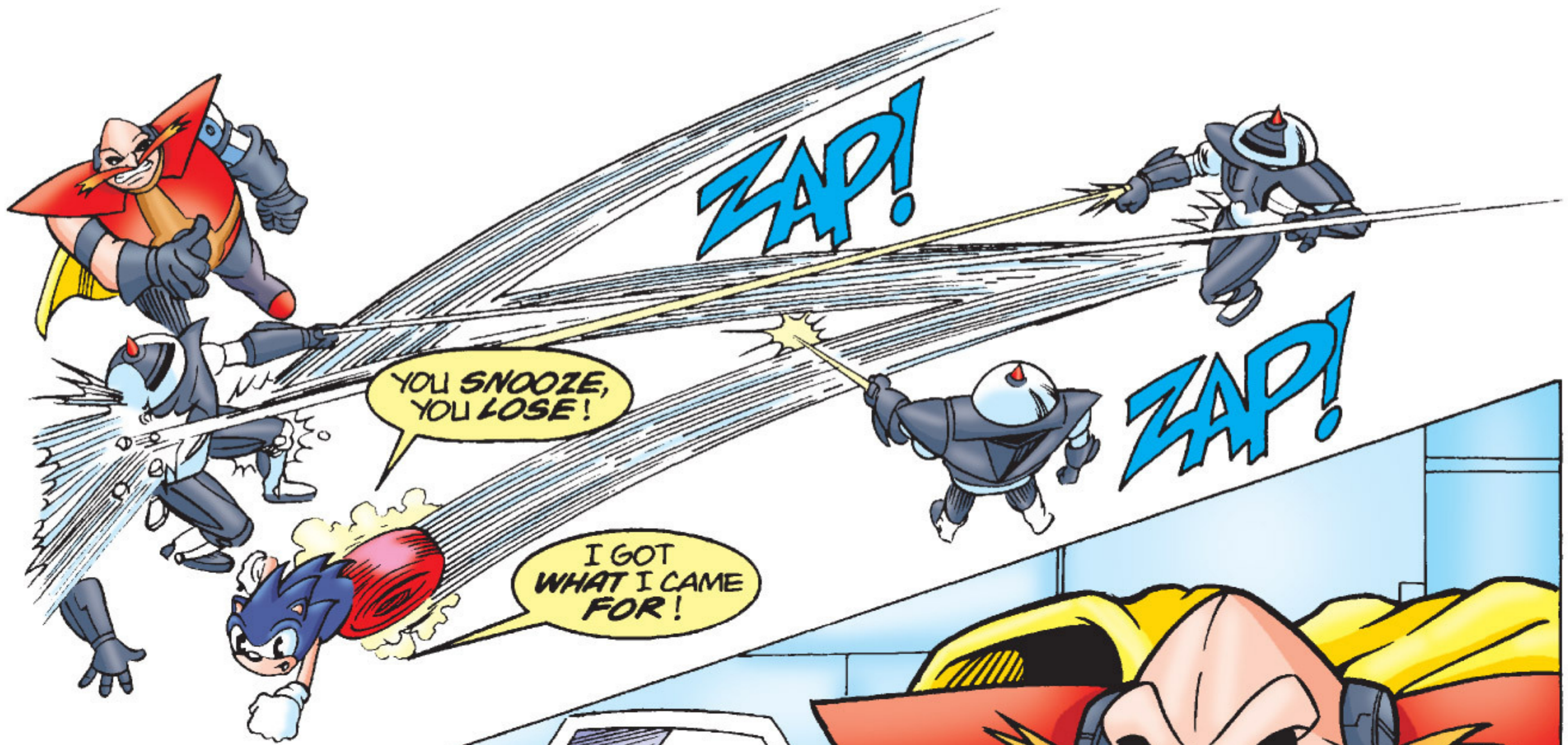


--I'M NOT INTERESTED IN TAKING PRISONERS AND ROBOTICIZING THEM!**

FIRE!

HOO-HAH!

** LIKE HE DID WITH SONIC IN SONIC #39-- EDITOR.

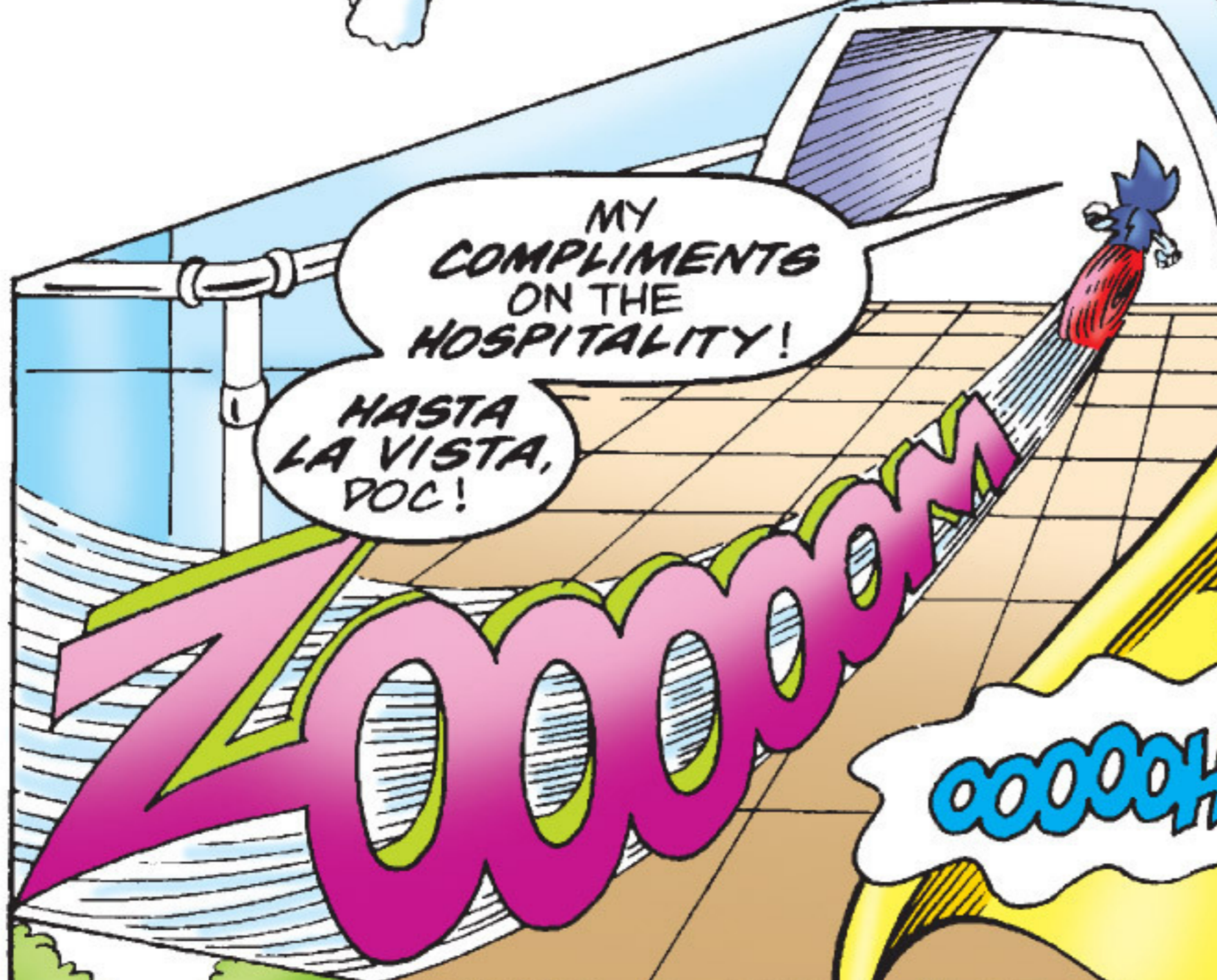


YOU SNOOZE,
YOU LOSE!

I GOT
WHAT I CAME
FOR!

ZAP!

ZAP!



MY
COMPLIMENTS
ON THE
HOSPITALITY!

HASTA
LA VISTA,
DOC!

ZOOOOOOOONNNNN

OOOOOH...

HOW I
REALLY HATE
THAT
HEDGEHOG!



I'D BETTER
POUR ON THE
JUICE--

--BEFORE
TIME'LL RUN
OUT FOR
EVERYONE!

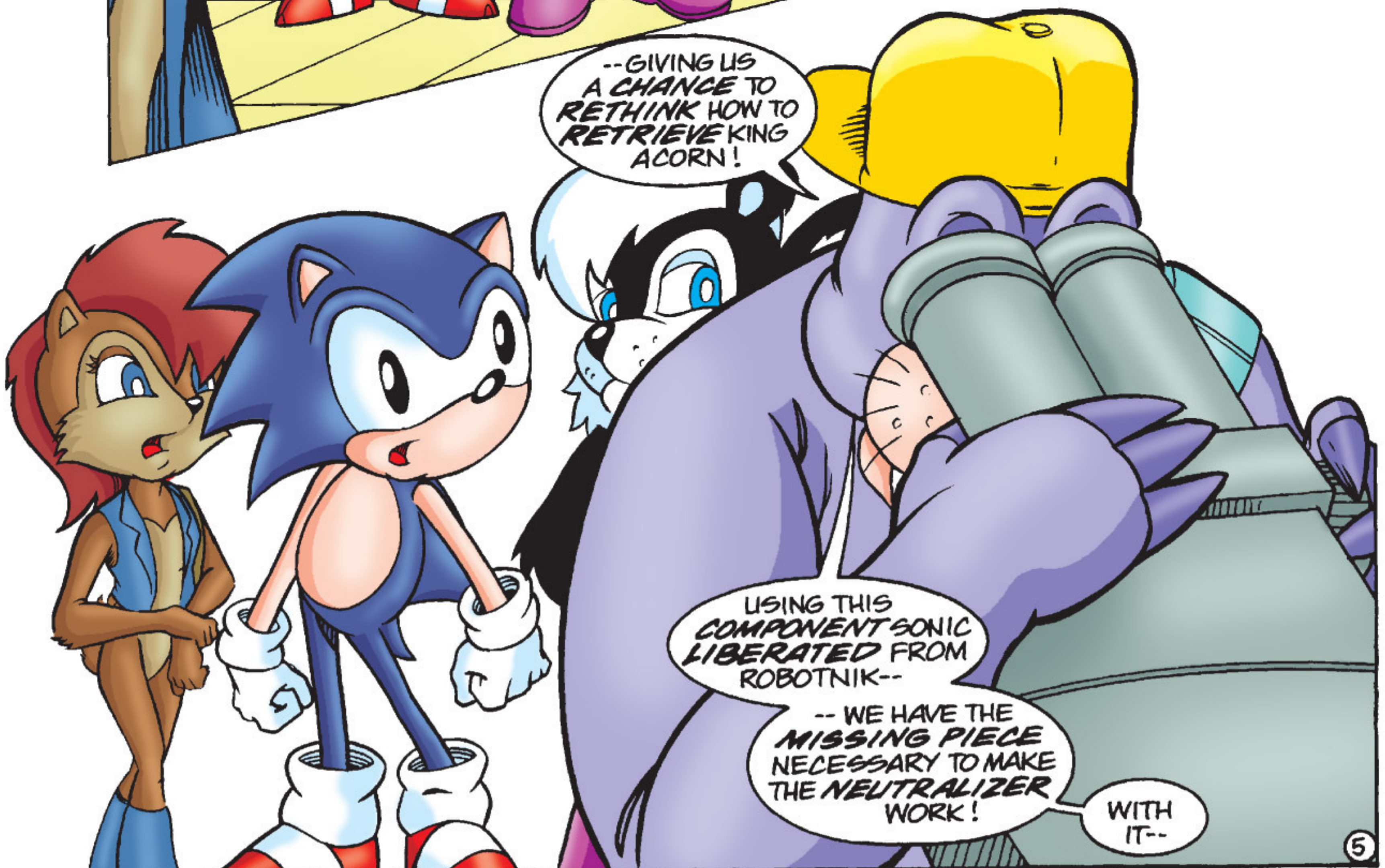
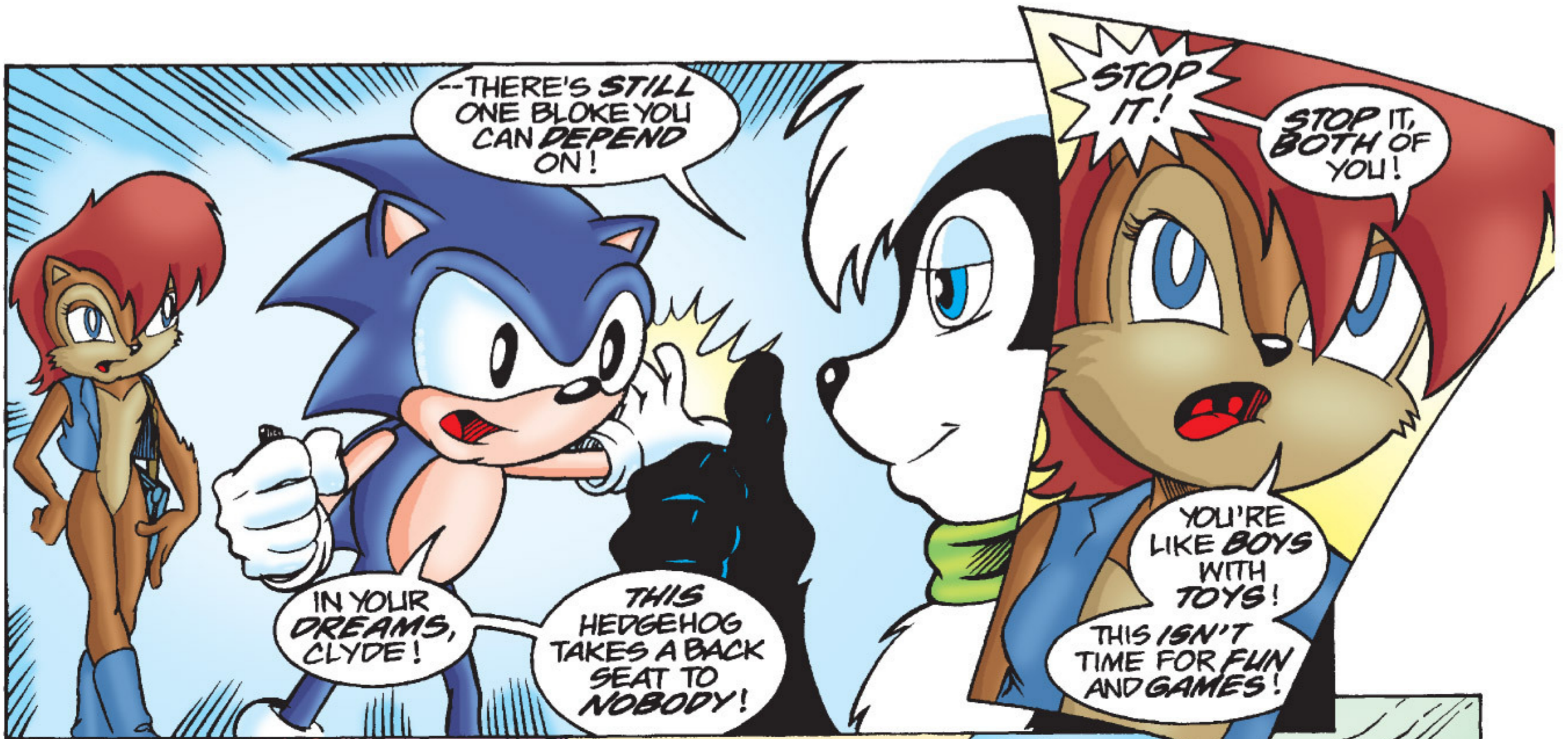
KR
BOOM!



SONIC!

I TAKE
IT YOU WERE
SUCCESS-
FUL!

WELL, IF
HE WASN'T,
LUV--





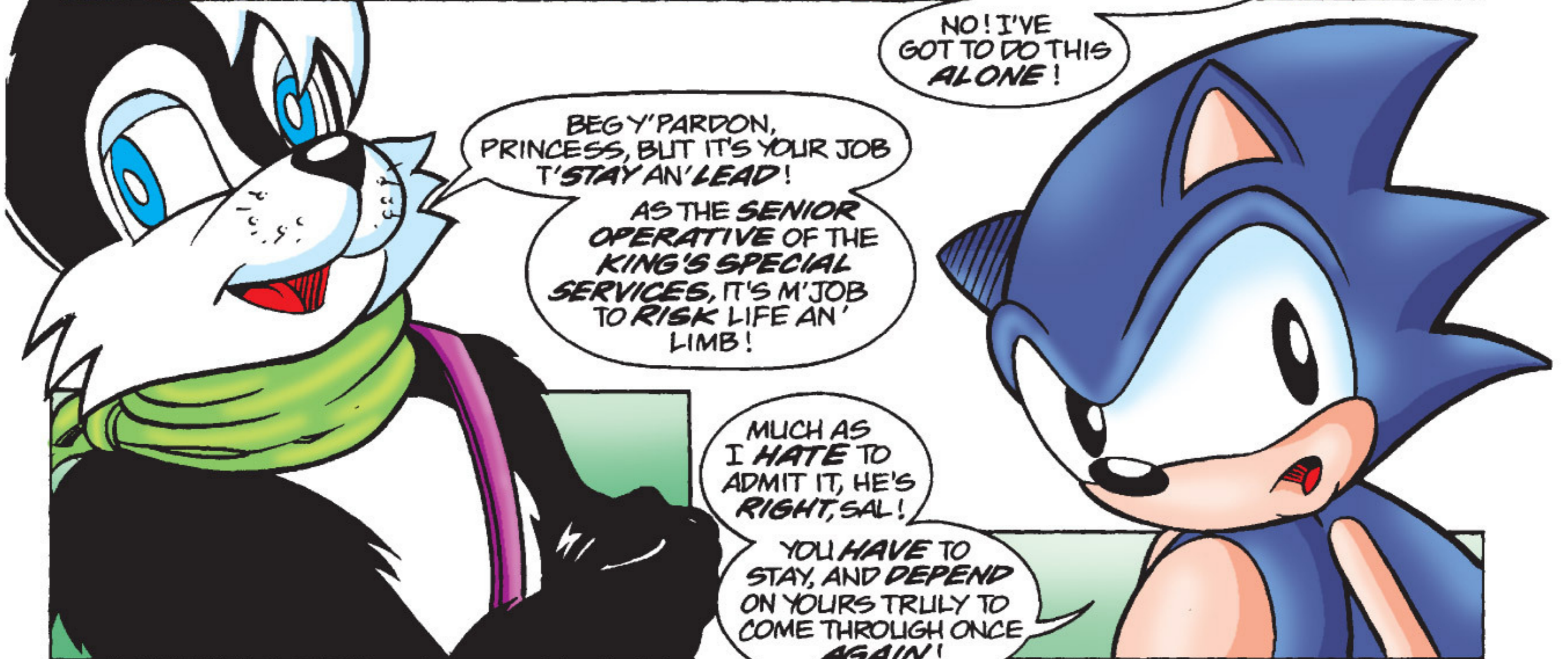
--WE STAND A CHANCE OF *RECOVERING* KING ACORN AND *SAVING* A UNIVERSE!

NOT WE, ROTOR! THIS IS *MY* FATHER WE'RE TALKING ABOUT!

WE MADE IT OUT *LAST* TIME BY THE *SKIN* OF OUR TEETH!

THERE *AREN'T* ANY GUARANTEES WE'LL DO IT *AGAIN*!

NO! I'VE GOT TO DO THIS *ALONE*!



BEG Y' PARDON, PRINCESS, BUT IT'S YOUR JOB T' *STAY* AN' *LEAD*!

AS THE *SENIOR* OPERATIVE OF THE *KING'S* SPECIAL SERVICES, IT'S M' JOB TO *RISK* LIFE AN' LIMB!

MUCH AS I *HATE* TO ADMIT IT, HE'S *RIGHT*, SAL!

YOU *HAVE* TO STAY, AND *DEPEND* ON YOURS TRULY TO COME THROUGH ONCE *AGAIN*!



WHEN SHE NEEDS AN *AMATEUR*, MATE, SHE'LL LET Y' KNOW!

THIS HERE'S A JOB FOR *GROWN-UPS*!

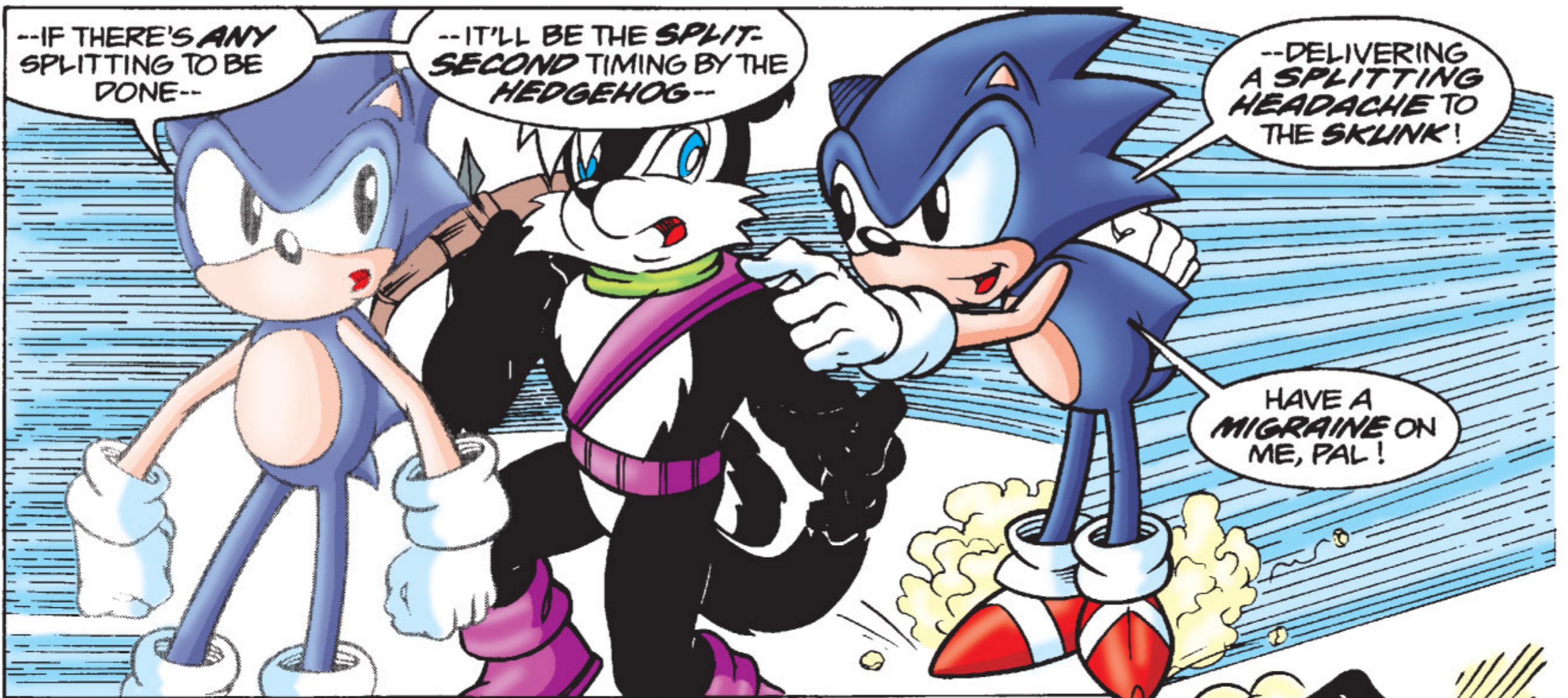
WHO? *YOU*?! WAKE UP AND *SMELL* THE COFFEE, PAL!



LISTEN-- I'M NOT GOING TO *SPLIT* HAIRS WITH YOU--UNLESS I *HAVE* TO!

CHILL, DUDE!

AFTER ALL--

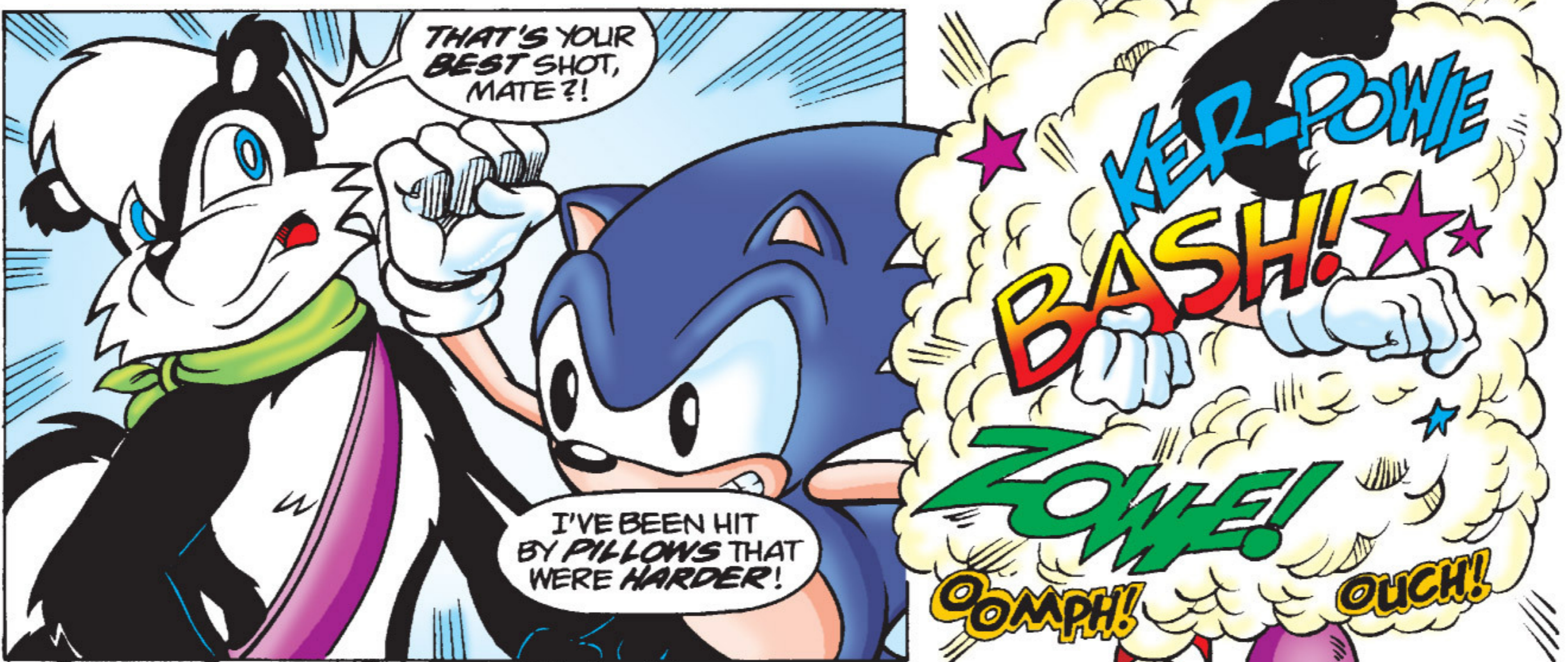


--IF THERE'S ANY SPLITTING TO BE DONE--

--IT'LL BE THE SPLIT-SECOND TIMING BY THE HEDGEHOG--

--DELIVERING A SPLITTING HEADACHE TO THE SKUNK!

HAVE A MIGRAINE ON ME, PAL!



THAT'S YOUR BEST SHOT, MATE?!

I'VE BEEN HIT BY PILLOWS THAT WERE HARDER!



THIS ISN'T GETTING US ANYWHERE, GUYS!

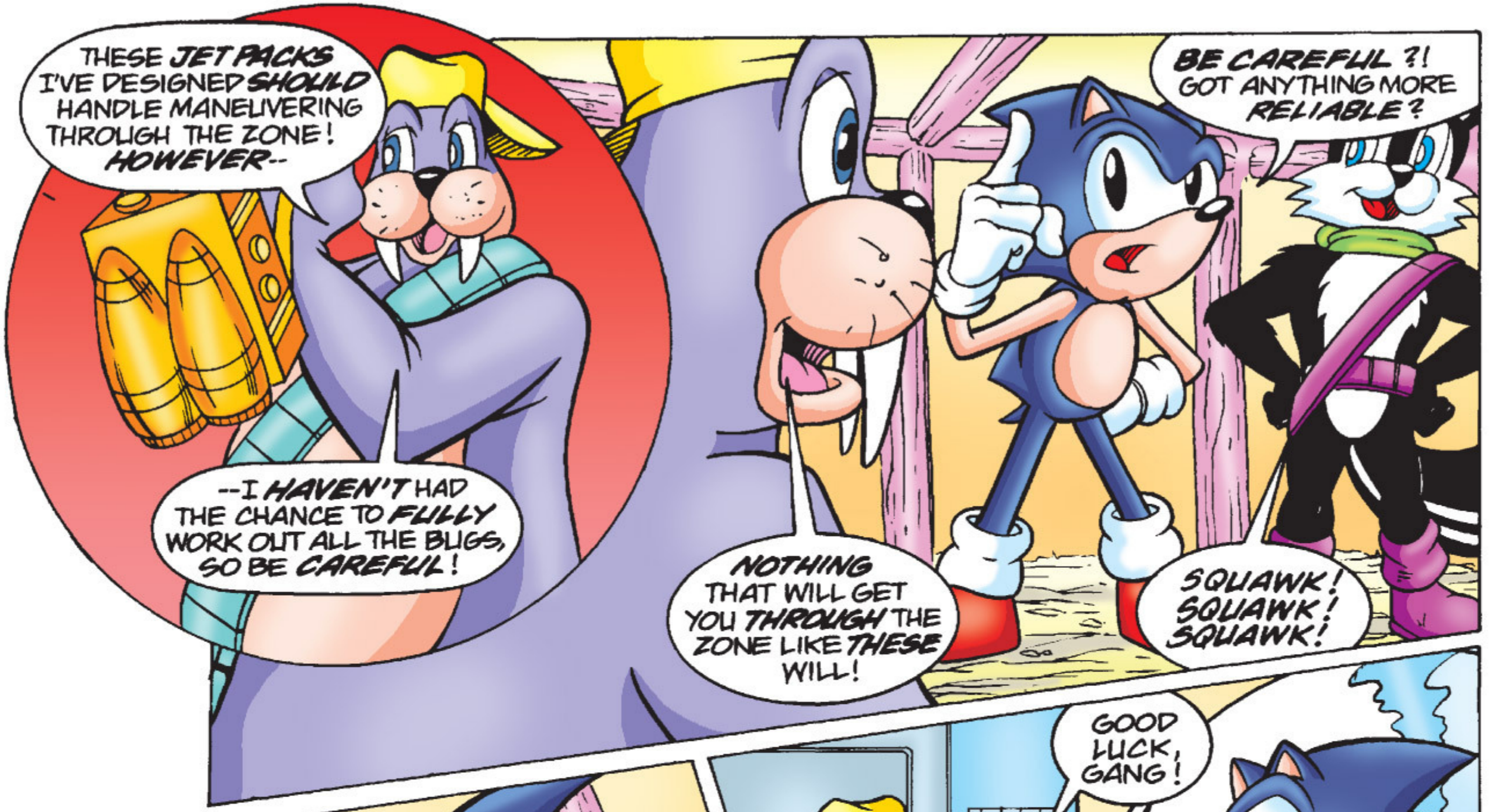
YOU CAN SETTLE THIS LATER! RIGHT NOW WE HAVE A JOB TO DO!

OPEN THE PORTAL, ROTOR!

THIS ISN'T OVER YET--NOT BY A LONG SHOT!

ANYTIME AND ANYWHERE, MATE!

ONE MORE THING--



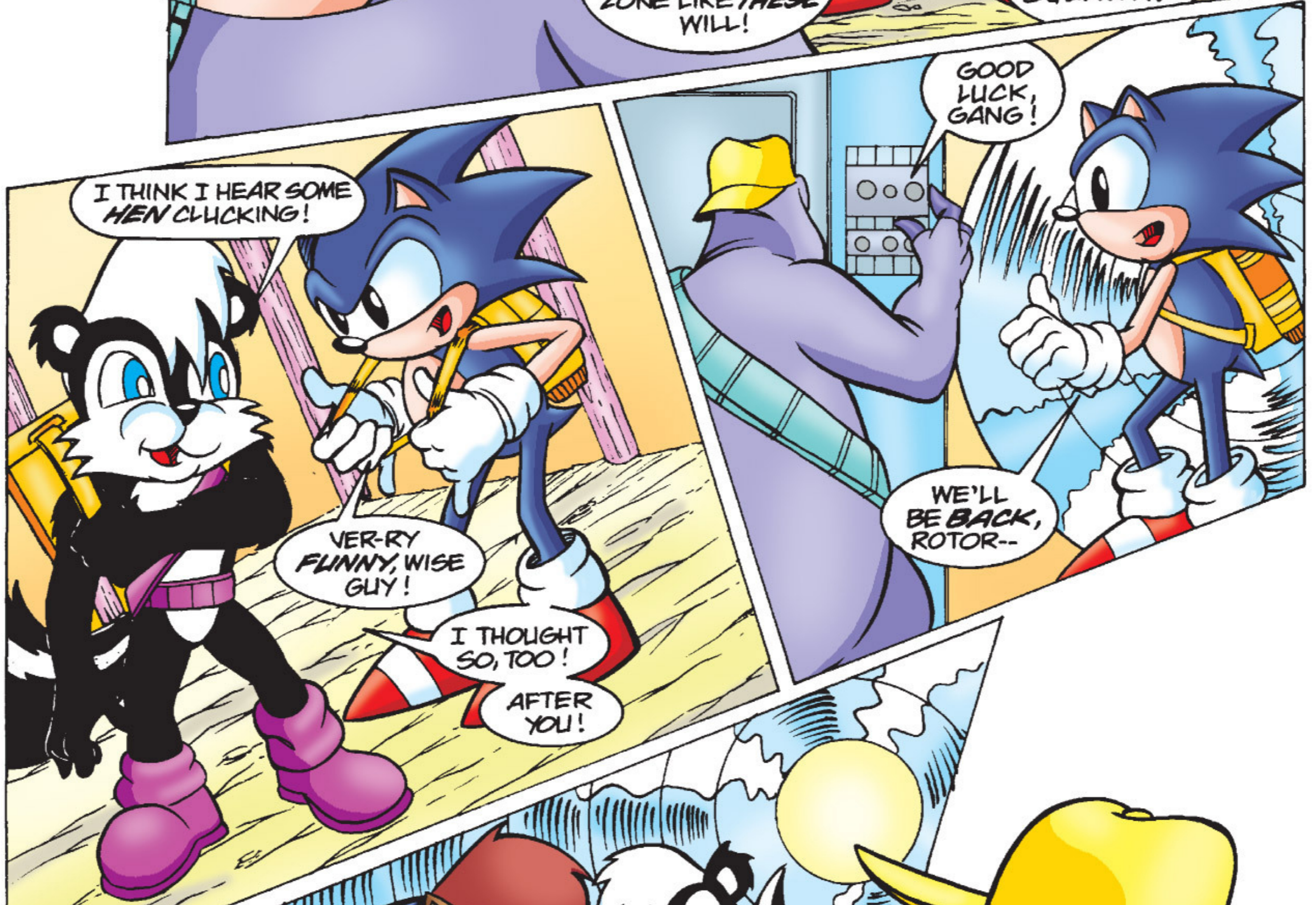
THESE **JET PACKS** I'VE DESIGNED **SHOULD** HANDLE MANEUVERING THROUGH THE ZONE! **HOWEVER--**

--I **HAVEN'T** HAD THE CHANCE TO **FULLY** WORK OUT ALL THE **BUGS**, SO BE **CAREFUL!**

NOTHING THAT WILL GET YOU THROUGH THE ZONE LIKE **THESE** WILL!

BE CAREFUL?! GOT ANYTHING MORE **RELIABLE?**

SQUAWK!
SQUAWK!
SQUAWK!



I THINK I HEAR SOME **HEN** CLUCKING!

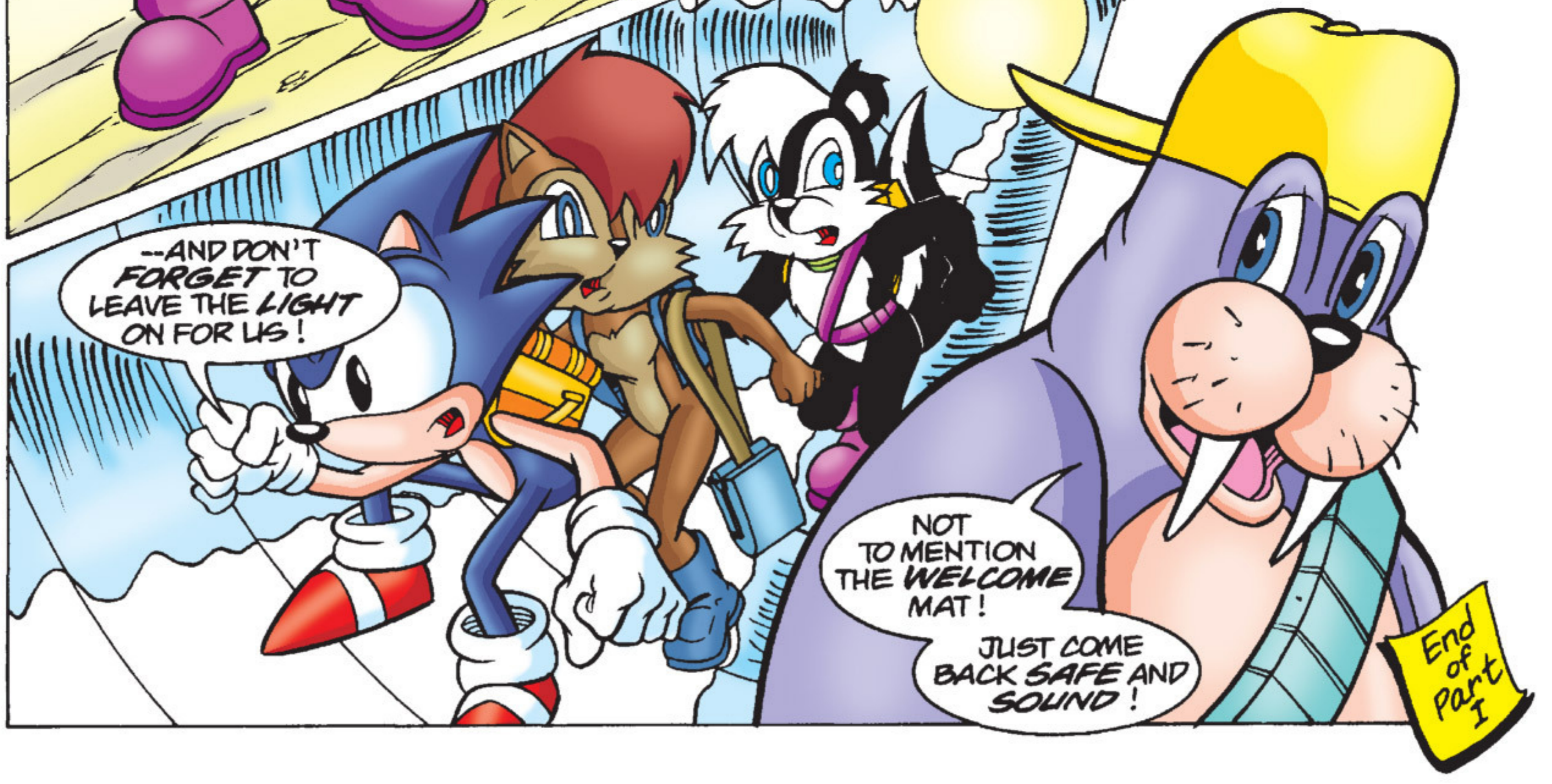
VERY FUNNY, WISE GUY!

I THOUGHT SO, TOO!

AFTER YOU!

GOOD LUCK, GANG!

WE'LL BE BACK, ROTOR--



--AND DON'T **FORGET** TO LEAVE THE **LIGHT** ON FOR US!

NOT TO MENTION THE **WELCOME** MAT!

JUST COME BACK SAFE AND **SOUND!**

End of Part I

...and one shall save him!

Part II

I SENSE HIS ARRIVAL!

SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG™

THE ONLY FOE TO INVADE MY DOMAIN AND ESCAPE MY WRATH!

HE WILL NOT BE SO FORTUNATE--

--THIS TIME!

EH?

WHAT IS IT, TOADY?

I BEG YOUR LORDSHIP'S INDULGENCE--

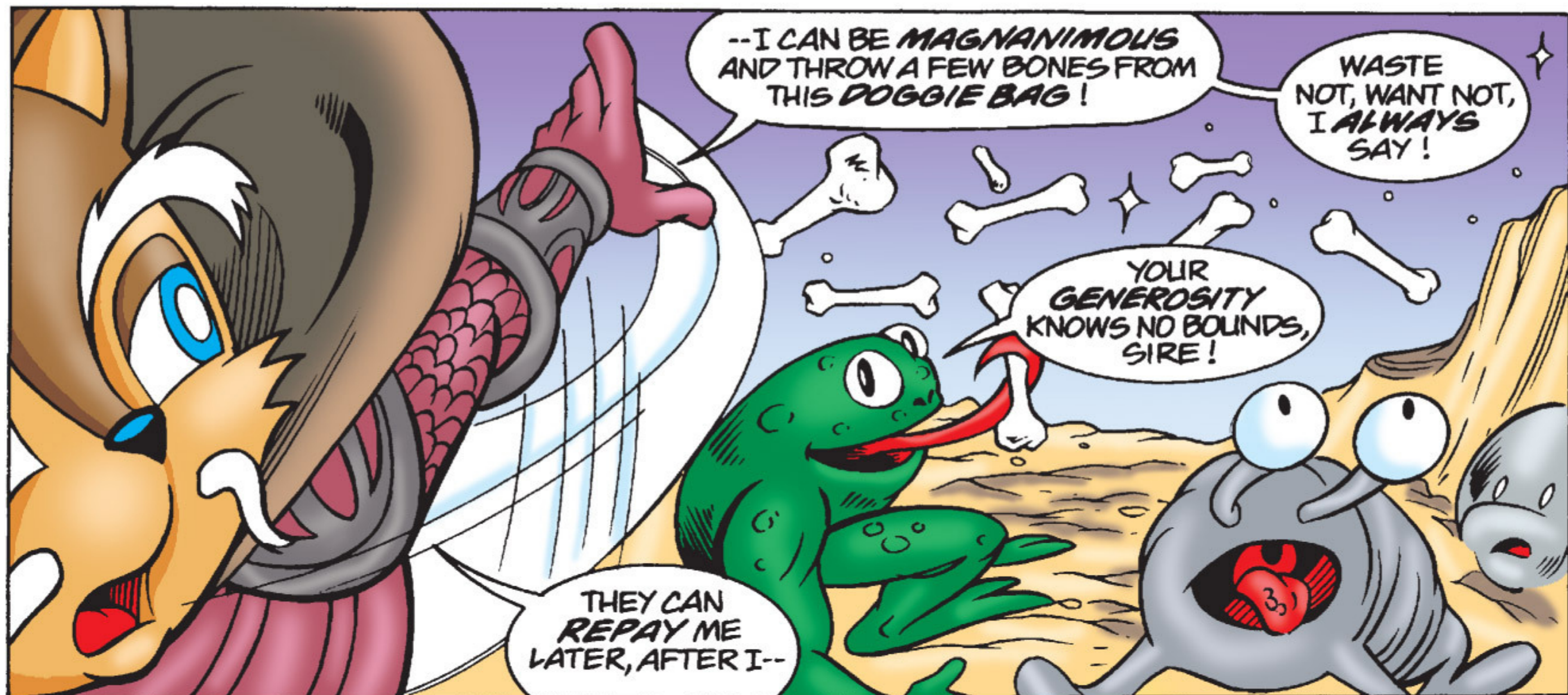
--BUT IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE THE PACK HAS BEEN FED A DECENT MEAL!

YOUR GROVELING IS IMPECCABLE, AS ALWAYS, MY FAITHFUL FOOTSTOOL!

BUT YOUR TIMING LEAVES A LOT TO BE DESIRED!

ALL THEY ASK IS A CRUMB OR TWO, SIRE!

HOWEVER--

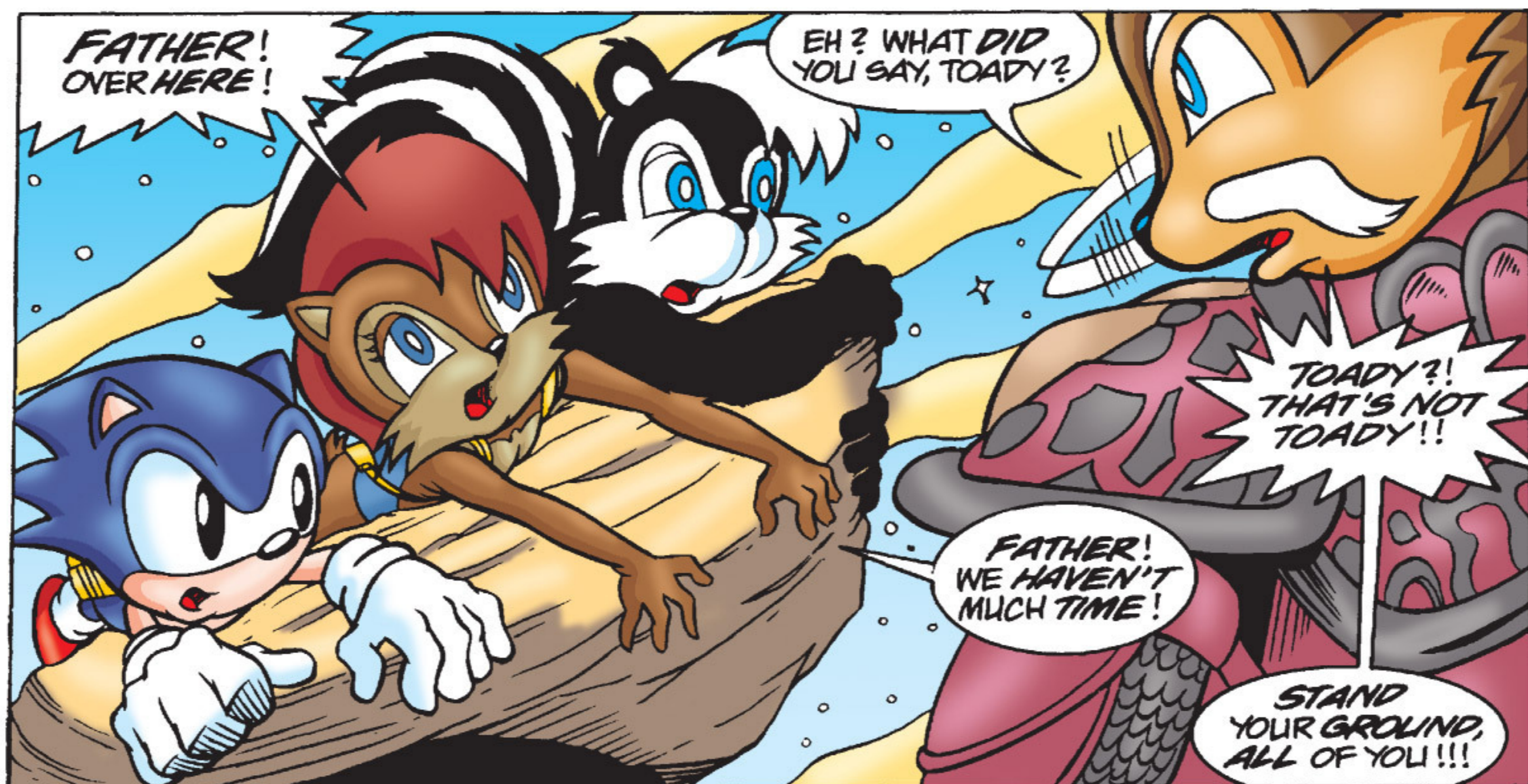


--I CAN BE MAGNANIMOUS AND THROW A FEW BONES FROM THIS DOGGIE BAG!

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT, I ALWAYS SAY!

YOUR GENEROSITY KNOWS NO BOUNDS, SIRE!

THEY CAN REPAY ME LATER, AFTER I--



FATHER! OVER HERE!

EH? WHAT DID YOU SAY, TOADY?

TOADY?! THAT'S NOT TOADY!!

FATHER! WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME!

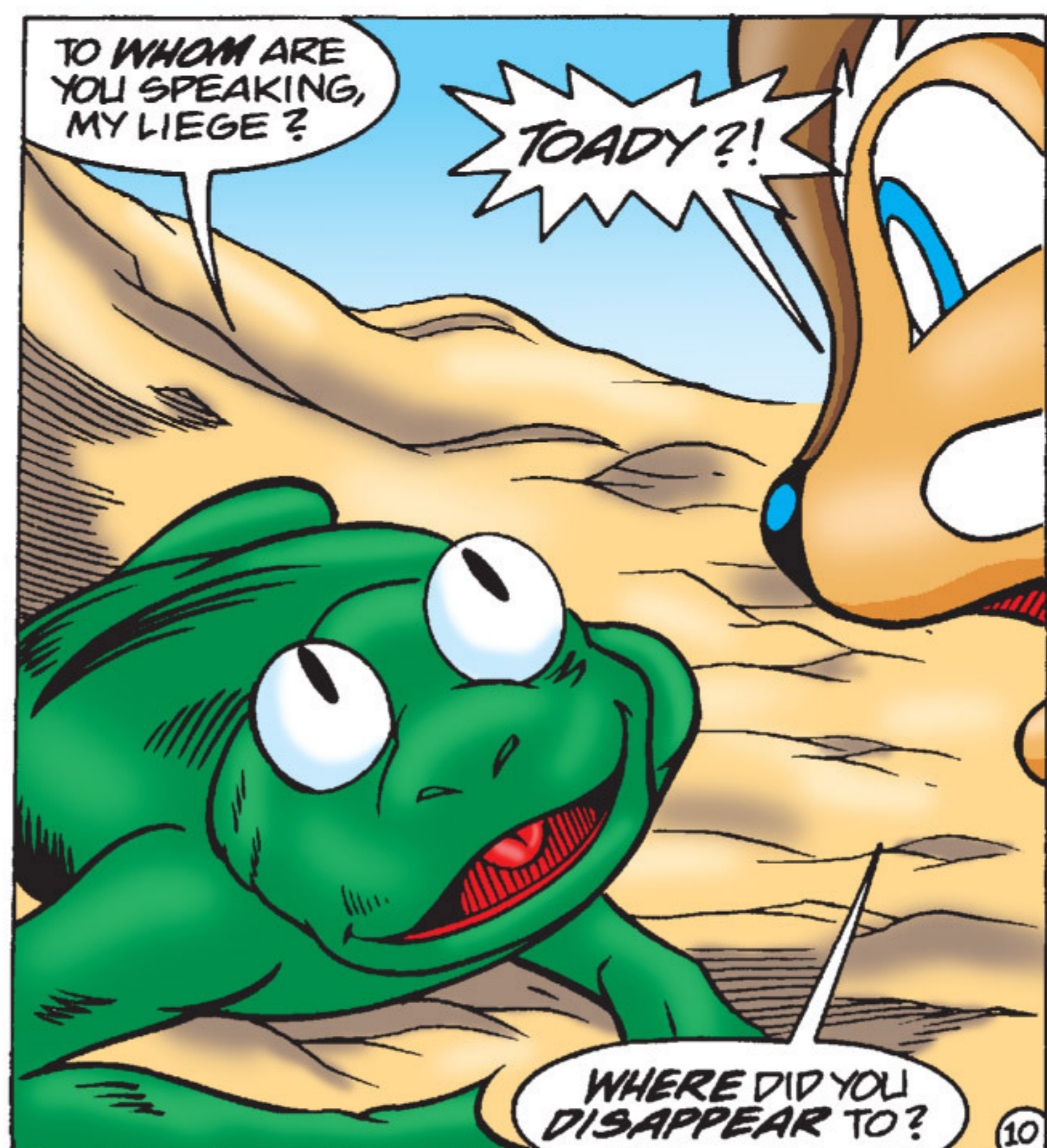
STAND YOUR GROUND, ALL OF YOU!!!



FATHER! DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME--

YOUR DAUGHTER?

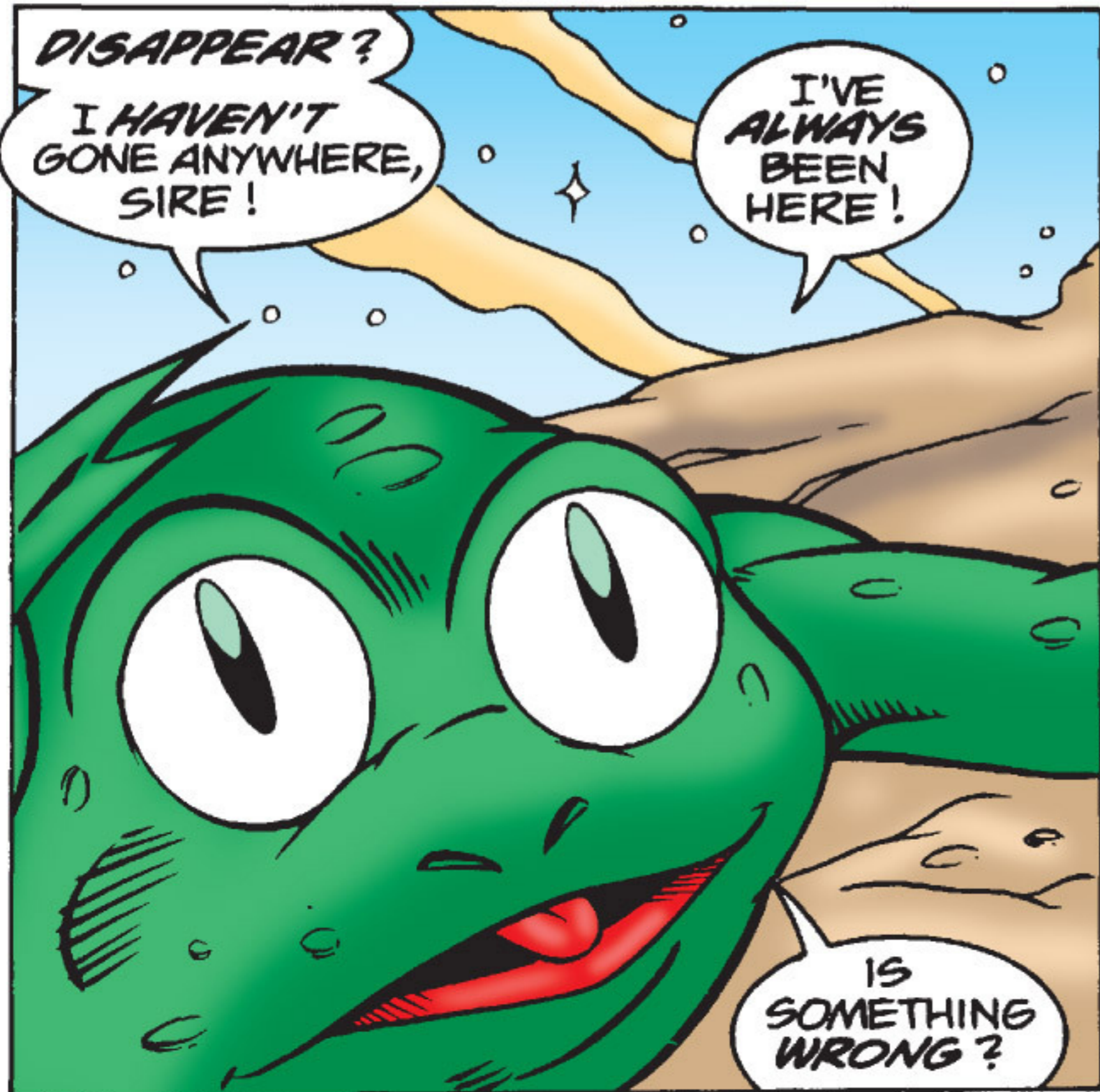
MY DAUGHTER?!



TO WHOM ARE YOU SPEAKING, MY LIEGE?

TOADY?!

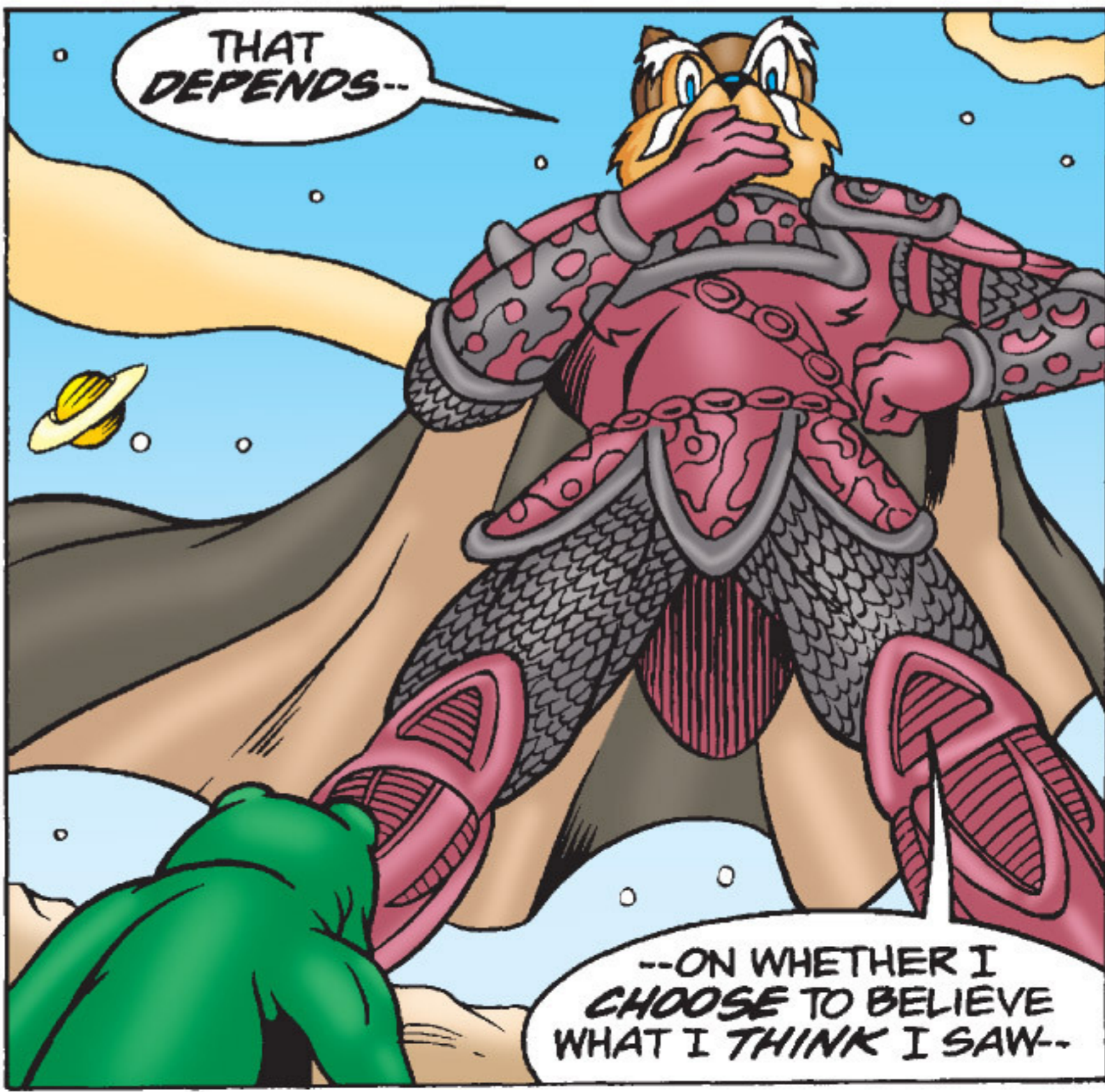
WHERE DID YOU DISAPPEAR TO?



DISAPPEAR?
I HAVEN'T
GONE ANYWHERE,
SIRE!

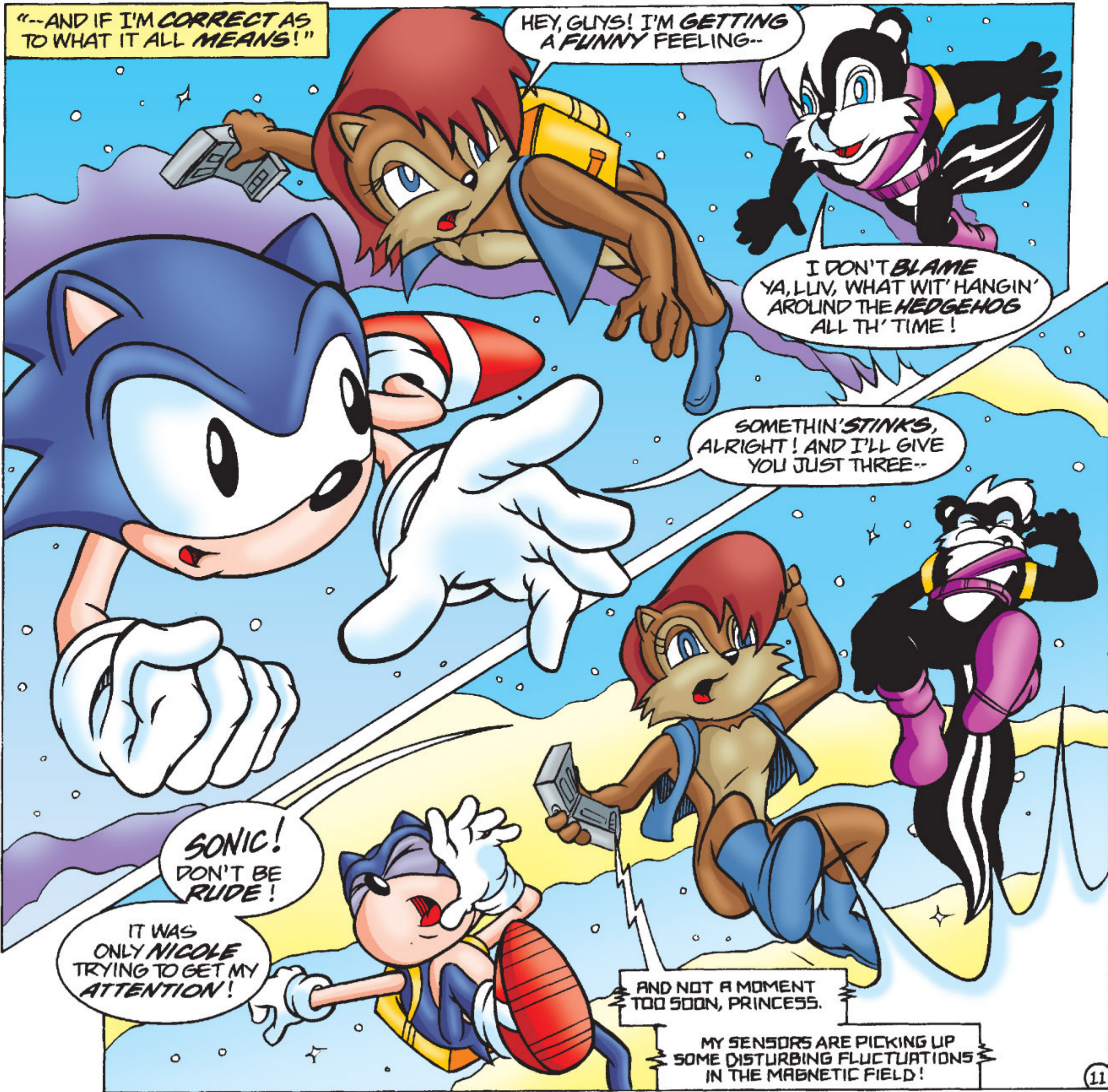
I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN
HERE!

IS
SOMETHING
WRONG?



THAT
DEPENDS--

--ON WHETHER I
CHOOSE TO BELIEVE
WHAT I THINK I SAW--



"--AND IF I'M CORRECT AS
TO WHAT IT ALL MEANS!"

HEY, GUYS! I'M GETTING
A FUNNY FEELING--

I DON'T BLAME
YA, LUV, WHAT WIT' HANGIN'
AROUND THE HEDGEHOGS
ALL TH' TIME!

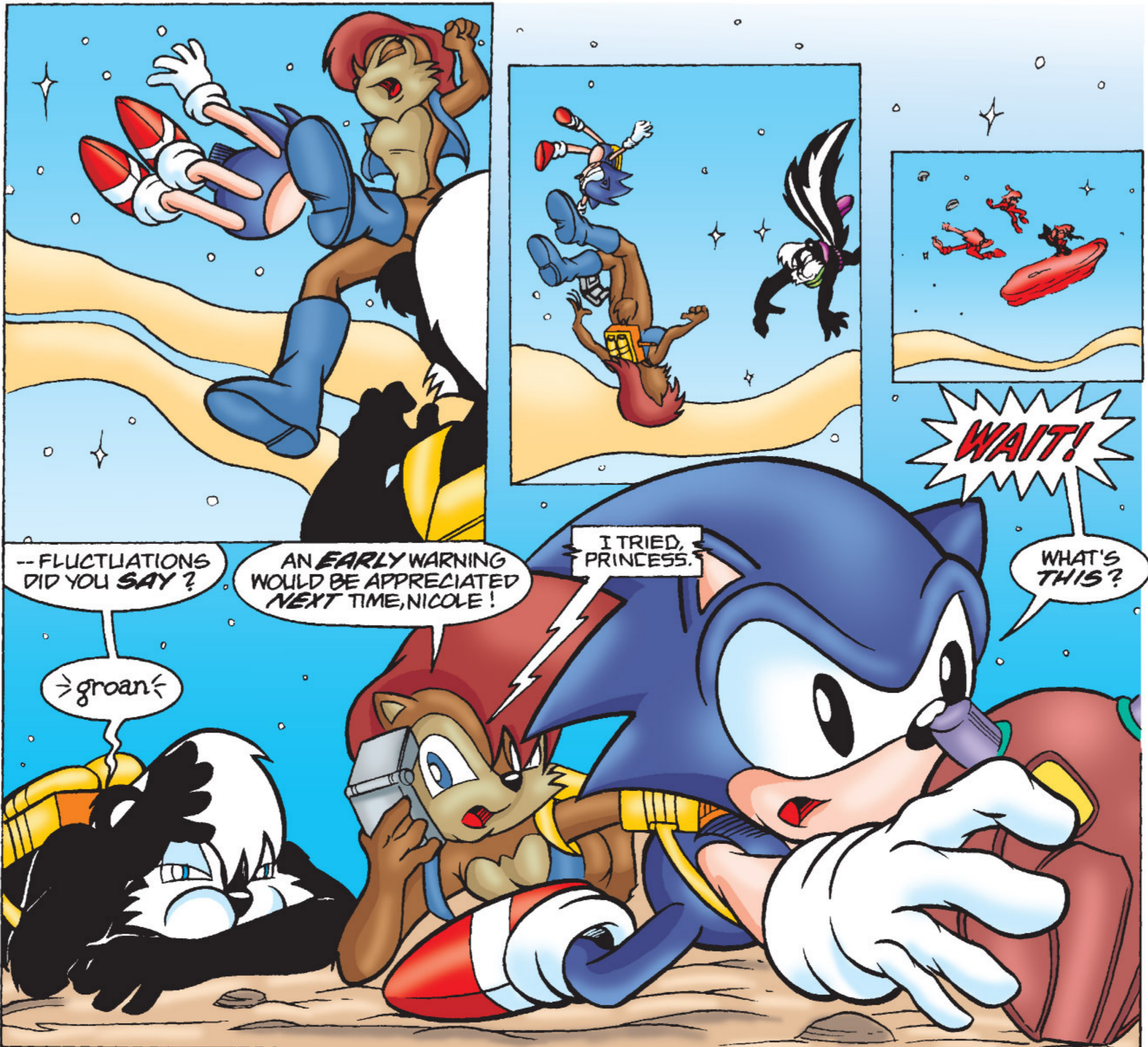
SOMETHIN' STINKS,
ALRIGHT! AND I'LL GIVE
YOU JUST THREE--

SONIC!
DON'T BE
RUDE!

IT WAS
ONLY NICOLE
TRYING TO GET MY
ATTENTION!

AND NOT A MOMENT
TOO SOON, PRINCESS.

MY SENSORS ARE PICKING UP
SOME DISTURBING FLUCTUATIONS
IN THE MAGNETIC FIELD!



-- FLUCTUATIONS DID YOU SAY?

AN **EARLY** WARNING WOULD BE APPRECIATED NEXT TIME, NICOLE!

I TRIED, PRINCESS.

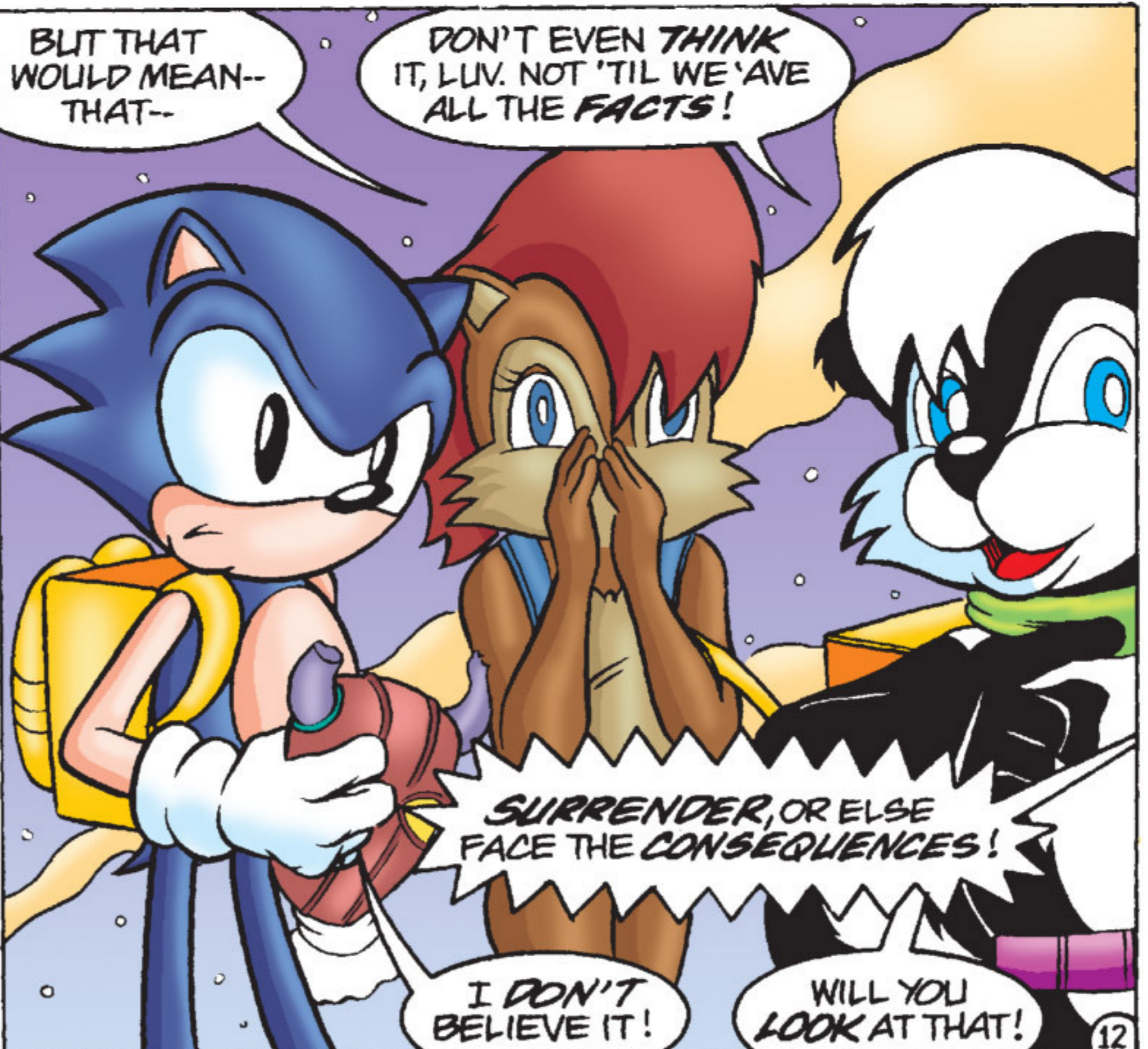
WHAT'S THIS?

>groan<

WAIT!



IT'S THE **HELMET** YOUR FATHER WAS WEARING WHEN WE LAST SAW HIM!*



BUT THAT WOULD MEAN-- THAT--

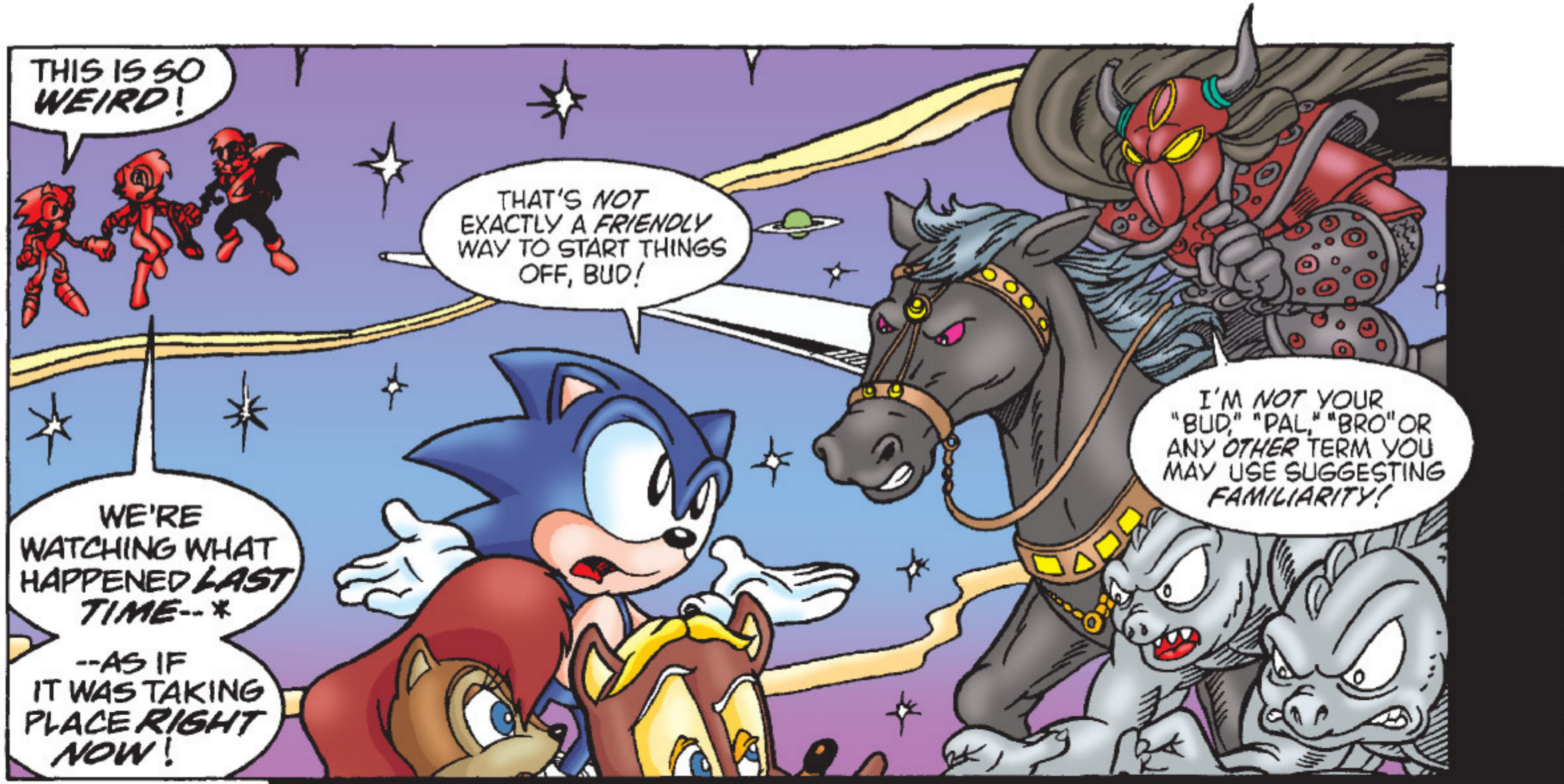
DON'T EVEN THINK IT, LUV. NOT 'TIL WE'AVE ALL THE **FACTS!**

SURRENDER, OR ELSE FACE THE CONSEQUENCES!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT!

*WE REFER ONCE MORE TO SONIC #36--EDITOR.



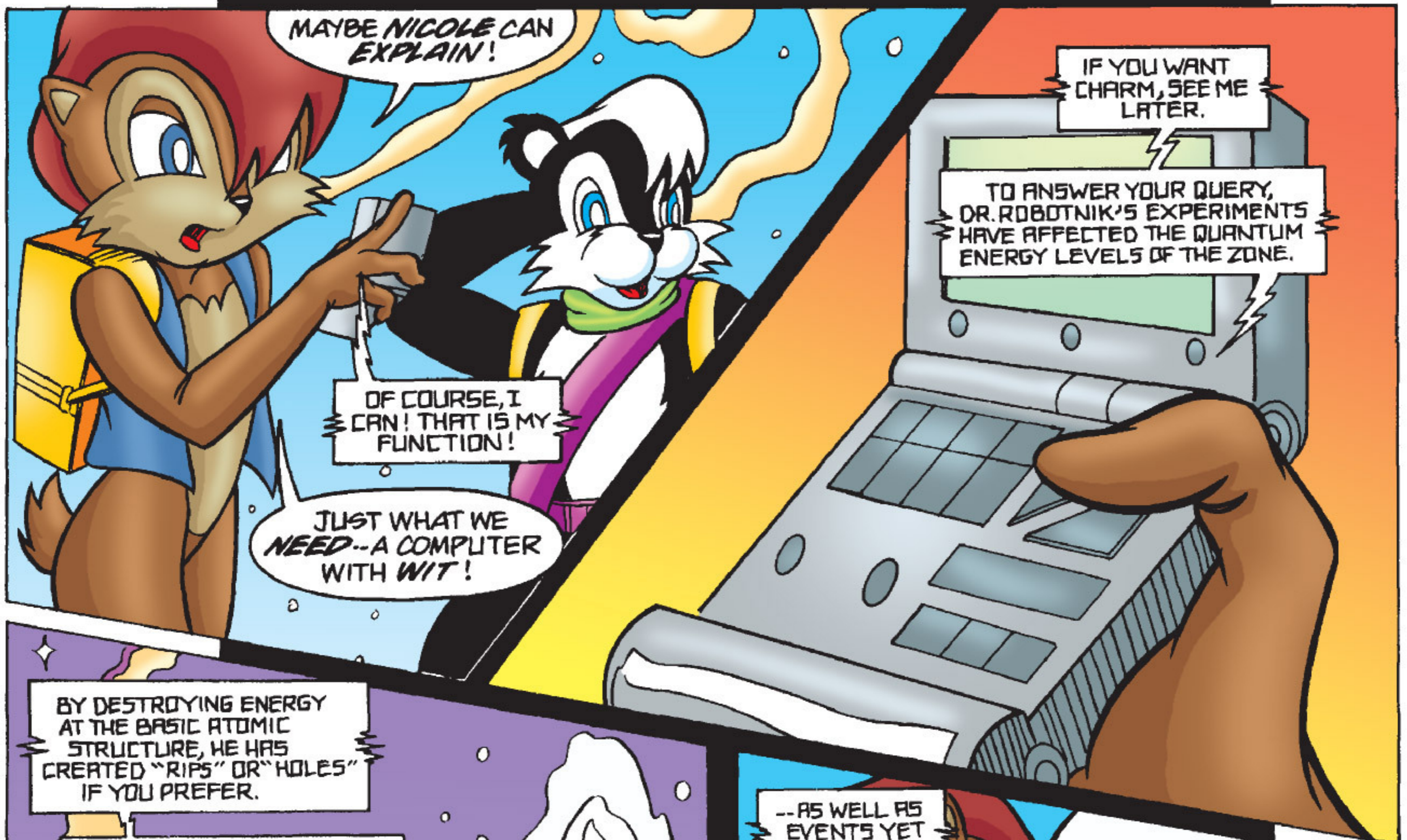
THIS IS SO WEIRD!

THAT'S NOT EXACTLY A FRIENDLY WAY TO START THINGS OFF, BUD!

I'M NOT YOUR "BUD," "PAL," "BRO" OR ANY OTHER TERM YOU MAY USE SUGGESTING FAMILIARITY!

WE'RE WATCHING WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME--*

--AS IF IT WAS TAKING PLACE RIGHT NOW!



MAYBE NICOLE CAN EXPLAIN!

IF YOU WANT CHARM, SEE ME LATER.

TO ANSWER YOUR QUERY, DR. ROBOTNIK'S EXPERIMENTS HAVE AFFECTED THE QUANTUM ENERGY LEVELS OF THE ZONE.

OF COURSE, I CAN! THAT IS MY FUNCTION!

JUST WHAT WE NEED--A COMPUTER WITH WIT!



BY DESTROYING ENERGY AT THE BASIC ATOMIC STRUCTURE, HE HAS CREATED "RIPS" OR "HOLES" IF YOU PREFER.

IN EFFECT, YOU HAVE "WINDOWS" ALLOWING YOU TO VIEW EVENTS THAT HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE.

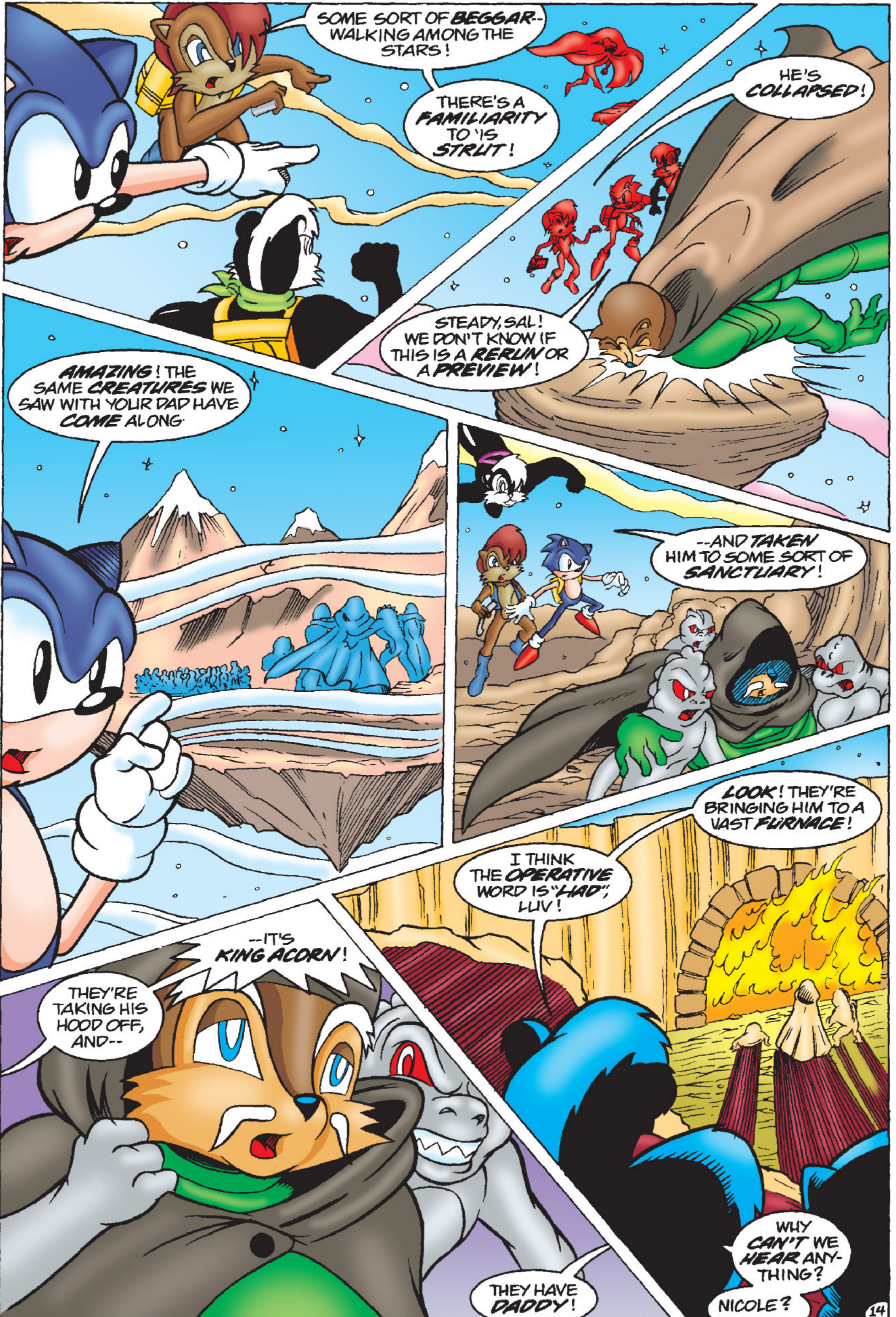


--AS WELL AS EVENTS YET TO COME!

SO, WHAT WE'RE SEEING HERE IS THE IMAGE OF WHAT WE EXPERIENCED!

EXACTLY!

NOW WHAT? (13)



SOME SORT OF **BEGGAR-**
WALKING AMONG THE
STARS!

THERE'S A
FAMILIARITY
TO 'IS
STRUT!

HE'S
COLLAPSED!

STEADY, SAL!
WE DON'T KNOW IF
THIS IS A **RERUN** OR
A **PREVIEW!**

AMAZING! THE
SAME **CREATURES** WE
SAW WITH YOUR DAD HAVE
COME ALONG

--AND **TAKEN**
HIM TO SOME SORT OF
SANCTUARY!

LOOK! THEY'RE
BRINGING HIM TO A
VAST FURNACE!

I THINK
THE **OPERATIVE**
WORD IS "**HAD**";
LUV!

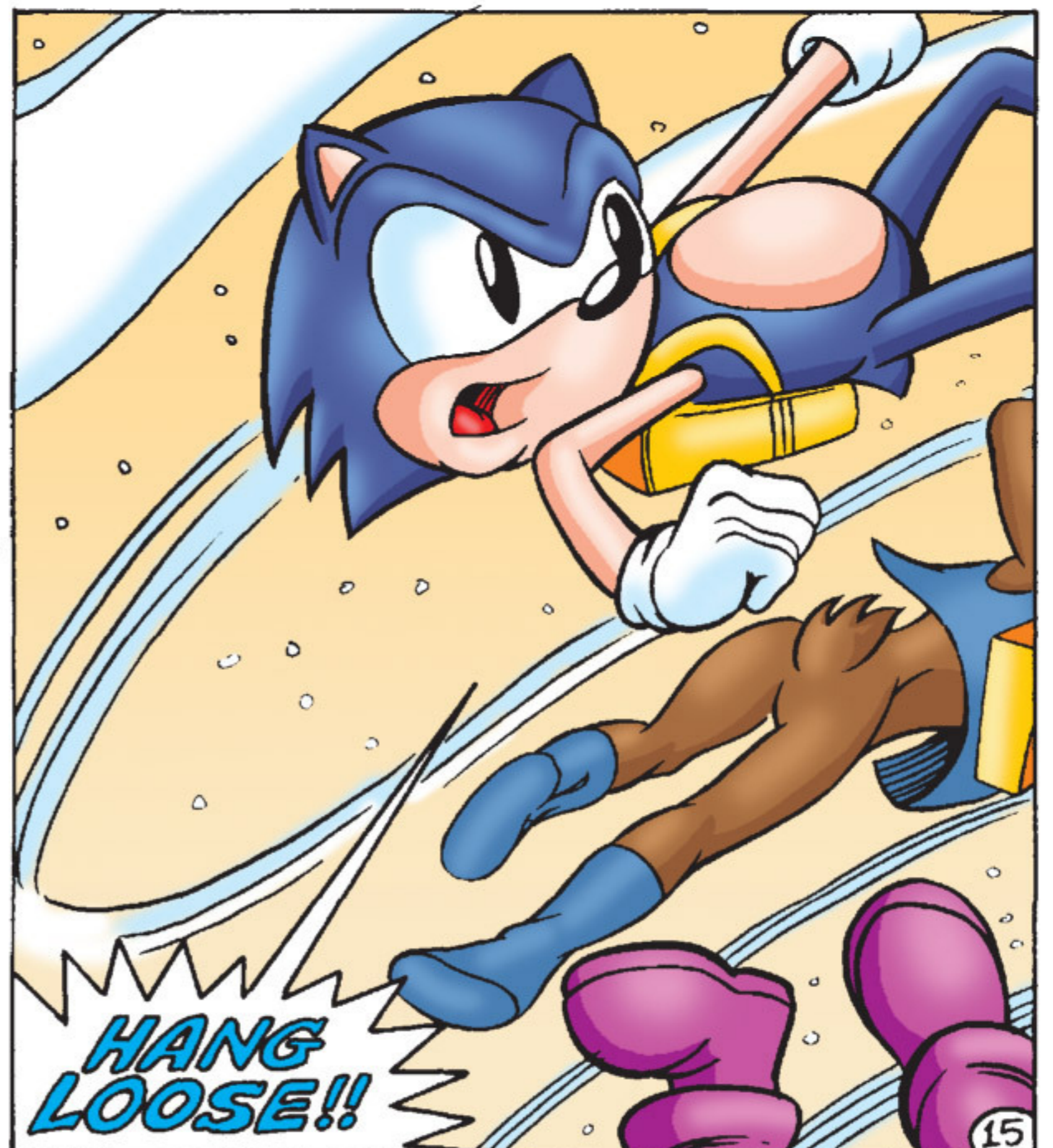
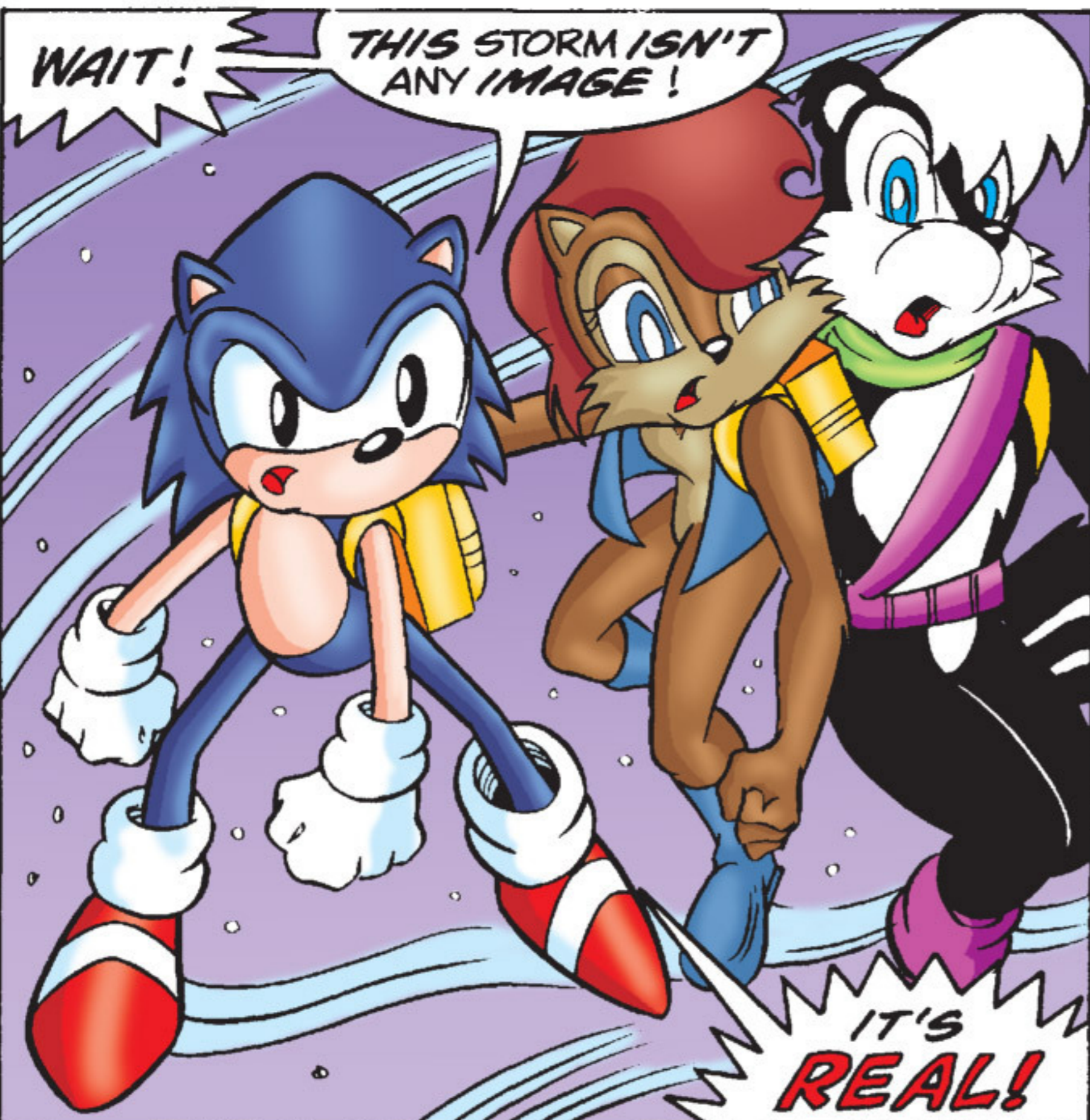
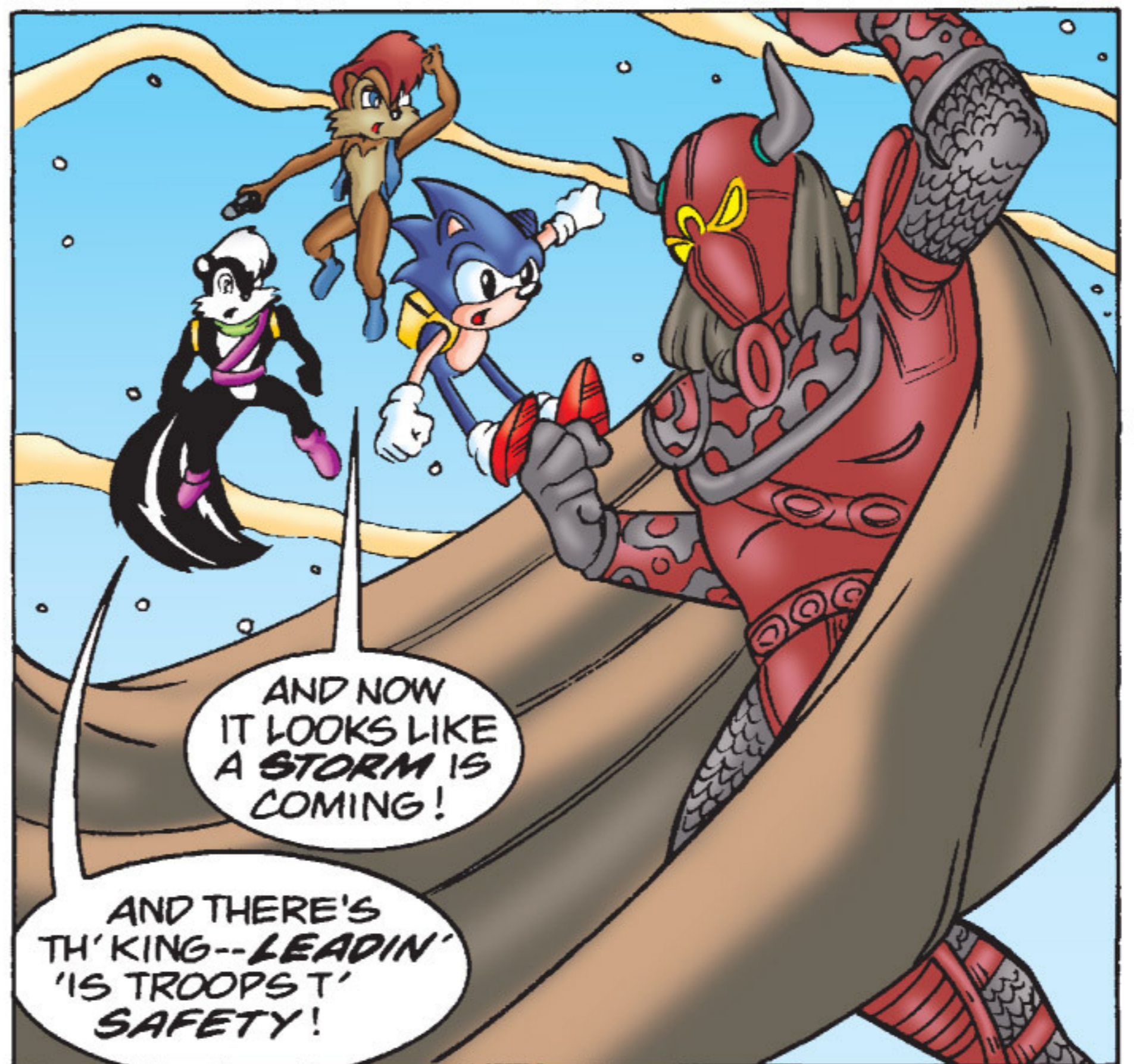
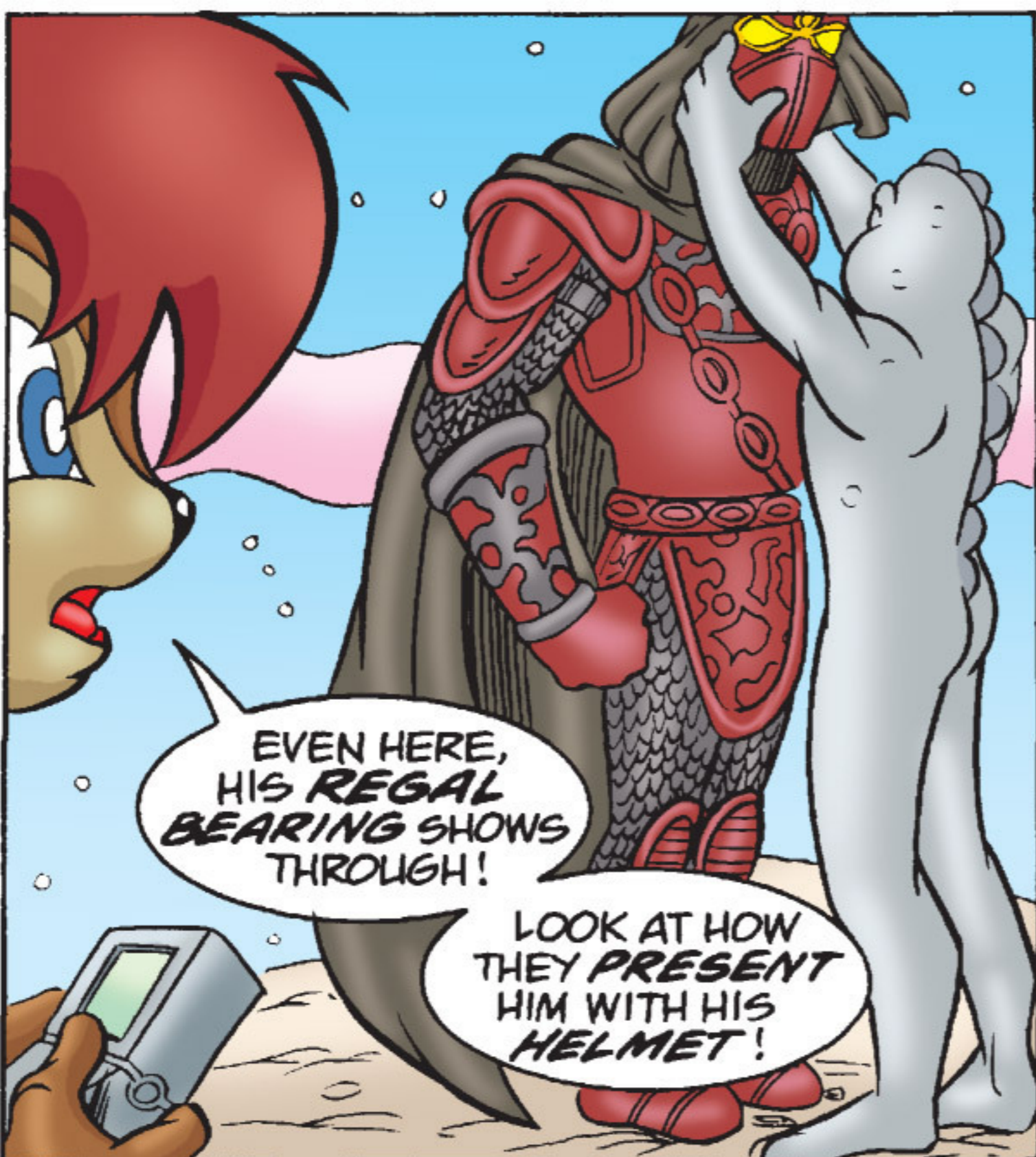
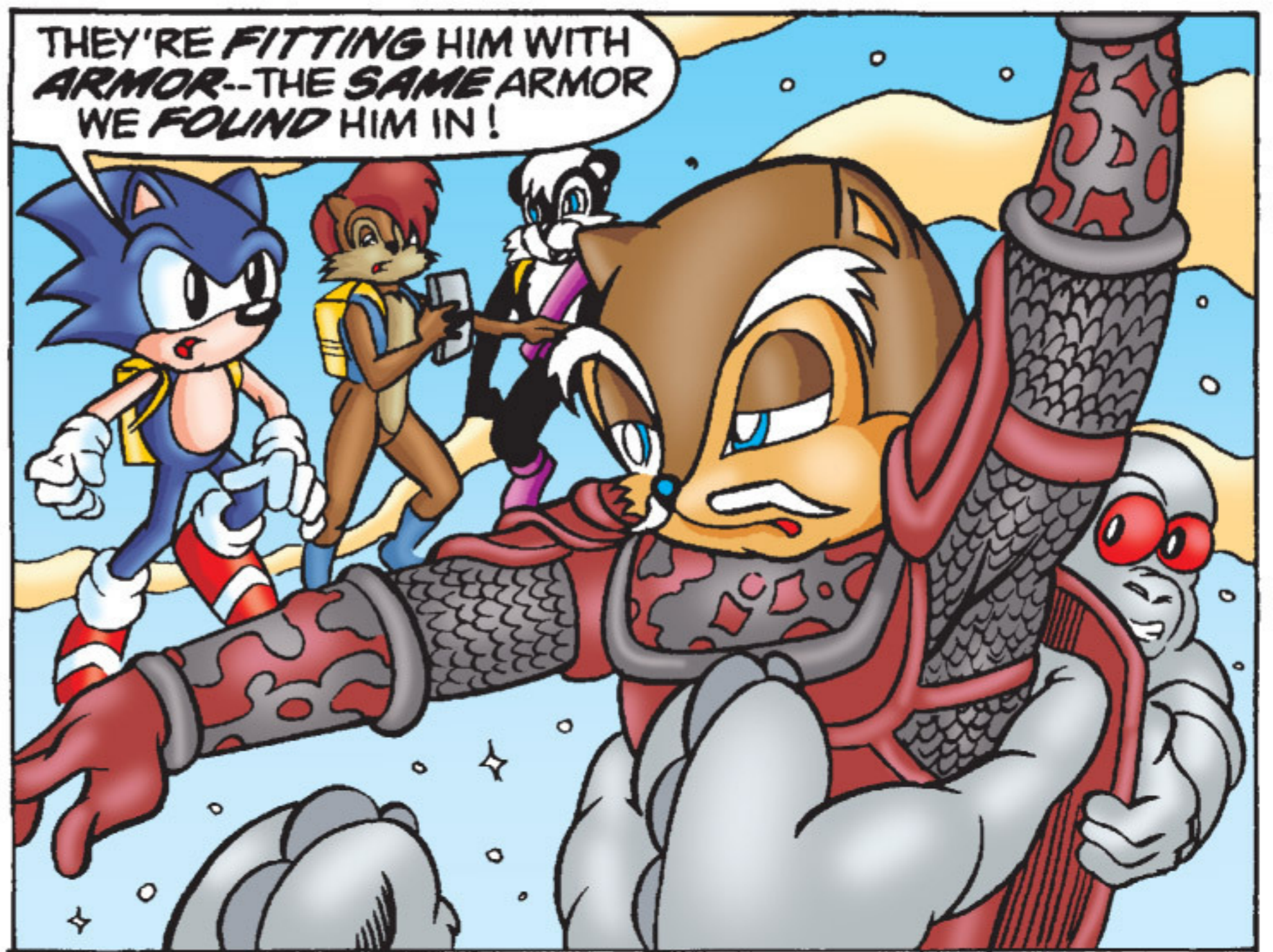
--IT'S
KING ACORN!

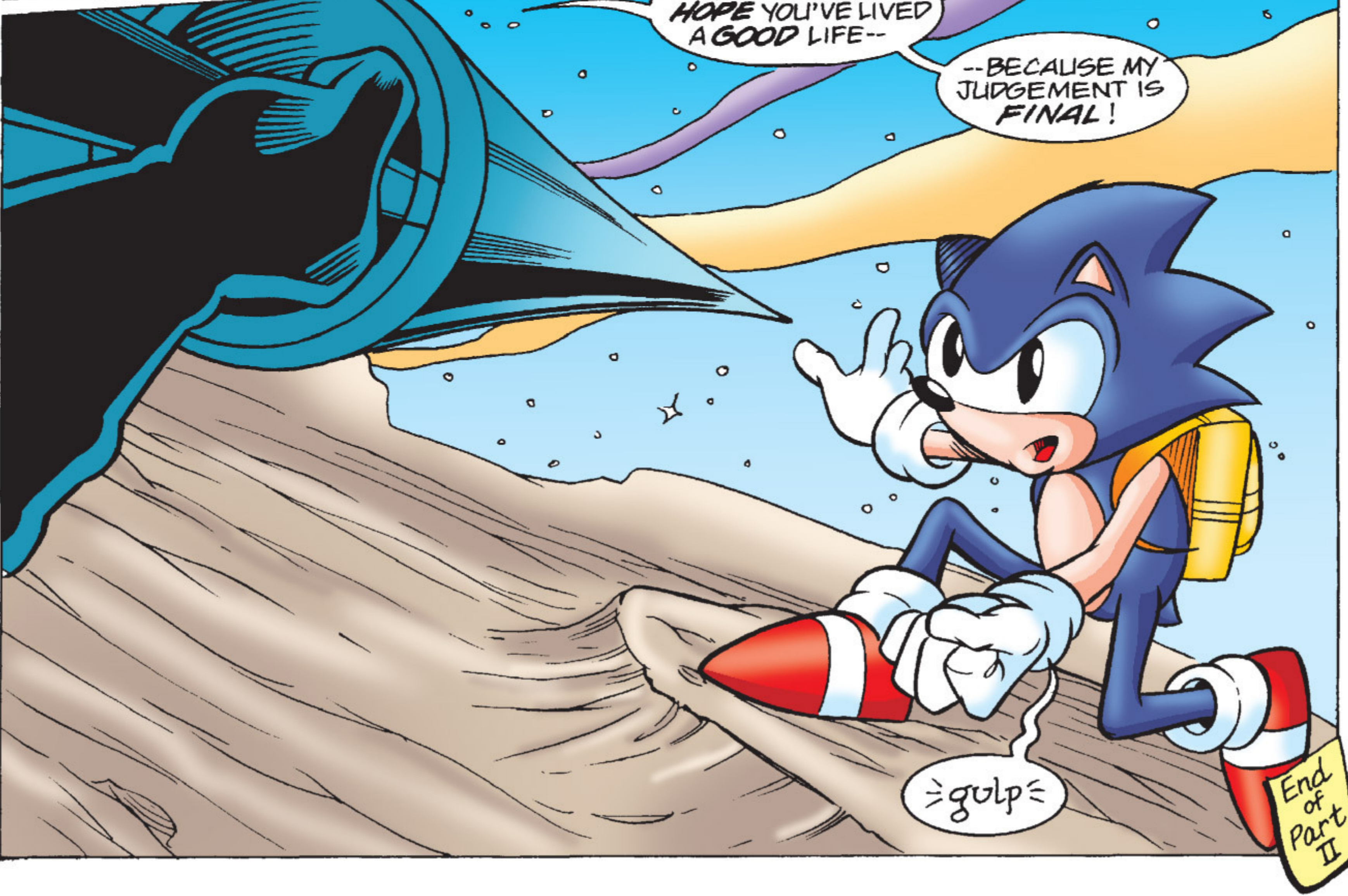
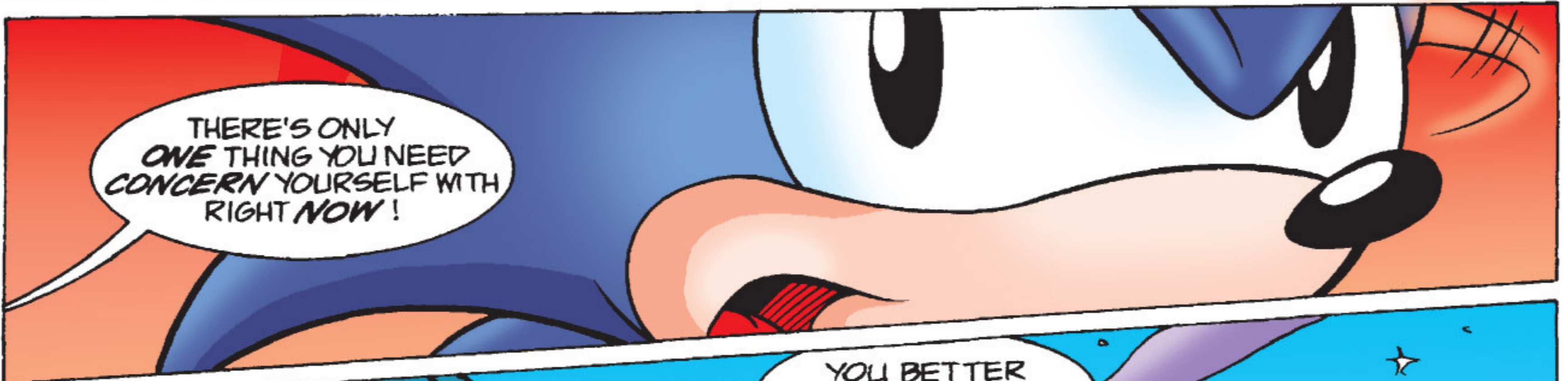
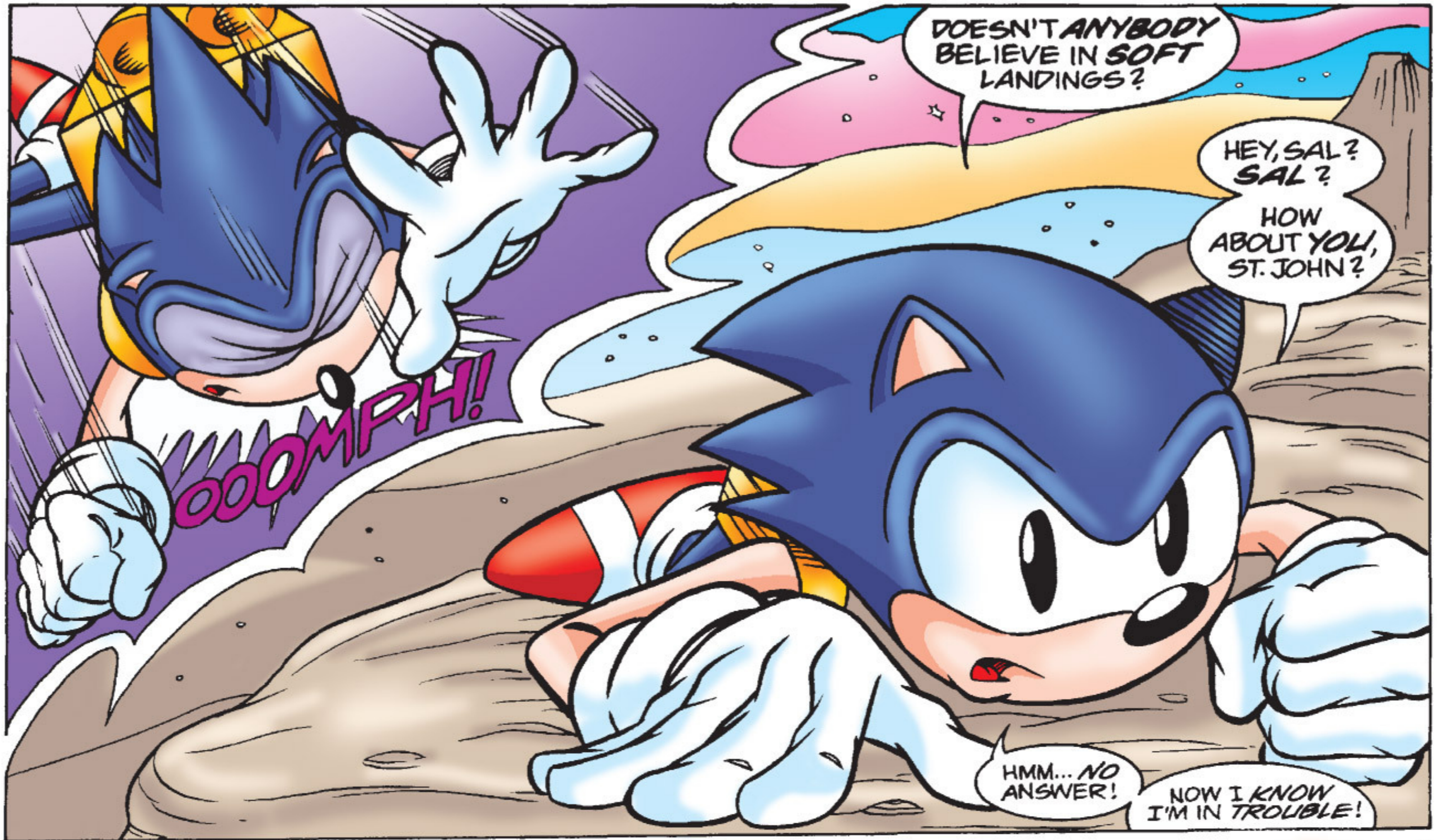
THEY'RE
TAKING HIS
HOOD OFF,
AND--

THEY HAVE
DADDY!

WHY
CAN'T WE
HEAR ANY-
THING?

NICOLE?







THIS IS ONE TIME,

SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG™

--WHERE YOU CAN'T *OUTRACE* YOUR FATE!

...and one shall save him!

Part III

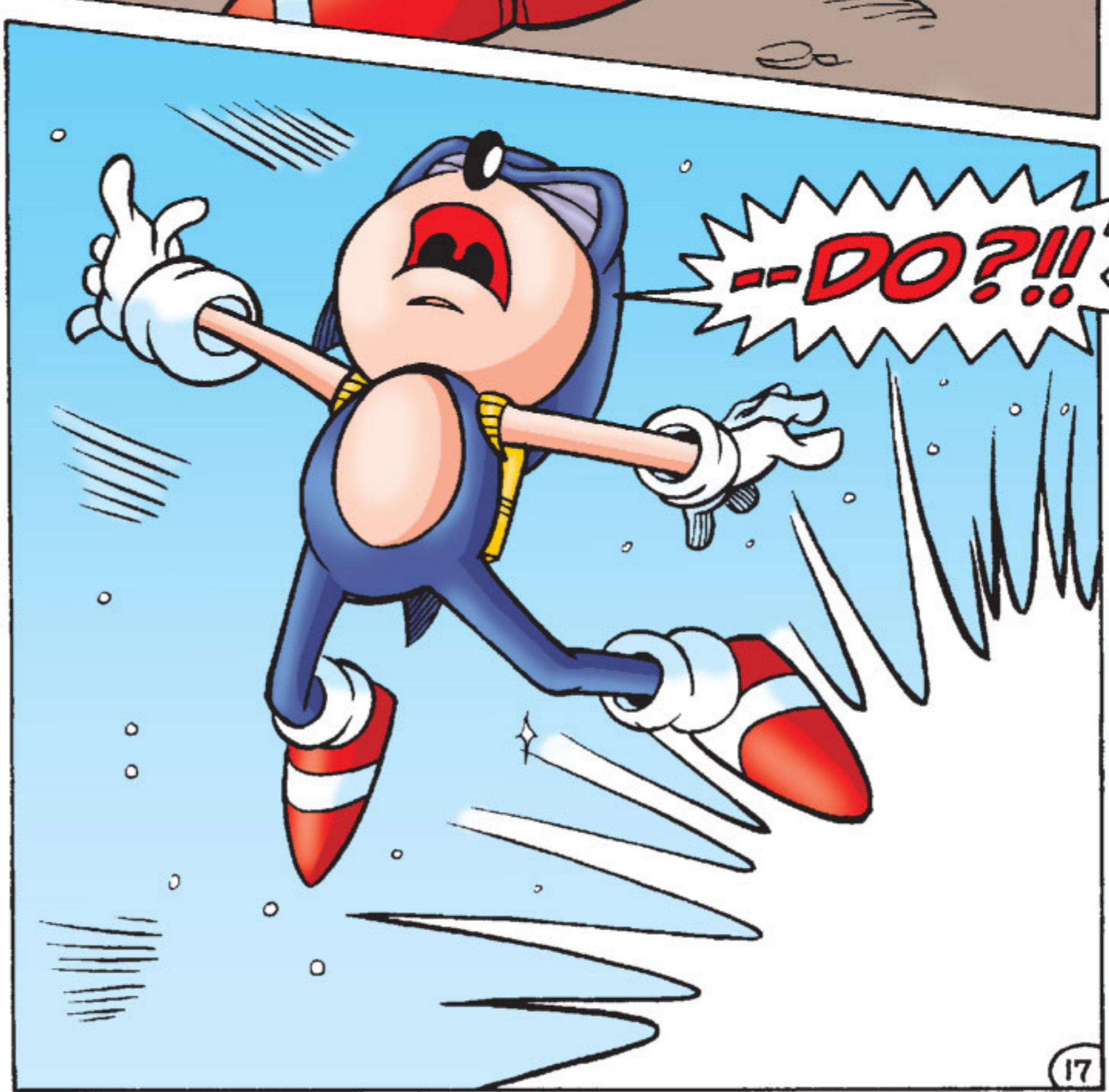
I'M NOT SURE I'M EVEN IN THE RUNNING!

I AM THE *MASTER* OF THIS DOMAIN, AND YOU WILL *SUBMIT* YOUR WILL IN SERVICE TO ME--

--OR YOU WILL BE ONE *SORRY* HEDGEHOG!



HOW ABOUT WE *FLIP* FOR IT? HEADS, YOU WIN! *TAILS*, I--



--*DO?!!*

SALLY!
ST. JOHN!

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

ARE YOU
ALRIGHT, MATE?
YOU'VE BEEN HERE
WITH US! GET WITH
THE PROGRAM!

THE ZONE IS
COLLAPSING,
SONIC--

-- AND I'M
AFRAID THERE ISN'T
A THING WE CAN DO
TO STOP IT!

WITH US
BEING DRAWN
INTO THAT COSMIC
WHIRLPOOL--

-- WE'LL BE LUCKY
TO SAVE OURSELVES, LET
ALONE MY FATHER!

THERE'S GOTTA
BE A WAY OUT OF THIS
FOR EVERYONE!

MAYBE
NICOLE HAS A
SUGGESTION?

WELL, NICOLE,
DO YOU?

NICOLE?

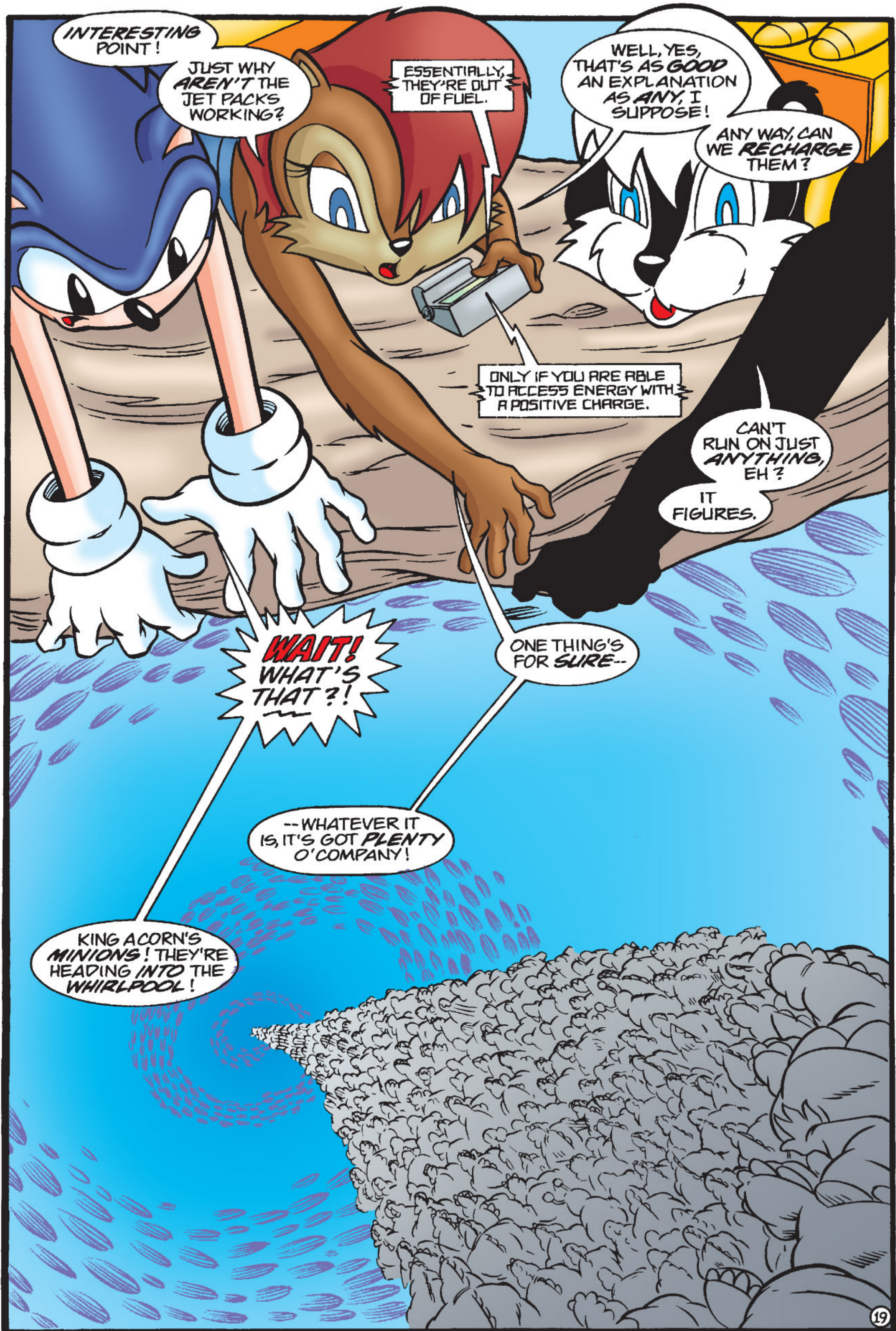
I'M PROCESSING...

WELL?

TRY PRAYER.

THIS IS JUST
DINKLIM!
SCREWY
MACHINE!

IF ONLY
OUR JET PACKS
WORKED!



INTERESTING POINT!

JUST WHY AREN'T THE JET PACKS WORKING?

ESSENTIALLY, THEY'RE OUT OF FUEL.

WELL, YES, THAT'S AS GOOD AN EXPLANATION AS ANY, I SUPPOSE!

ANYWAY, CAN WE RECHARGE THEM?

ONLY IF YOU ARE ABLE TO ACCESS ENERGY WITH A POSITIVE CHARGE.

CAN'T RUN ON JUST ANYTHING, EH?

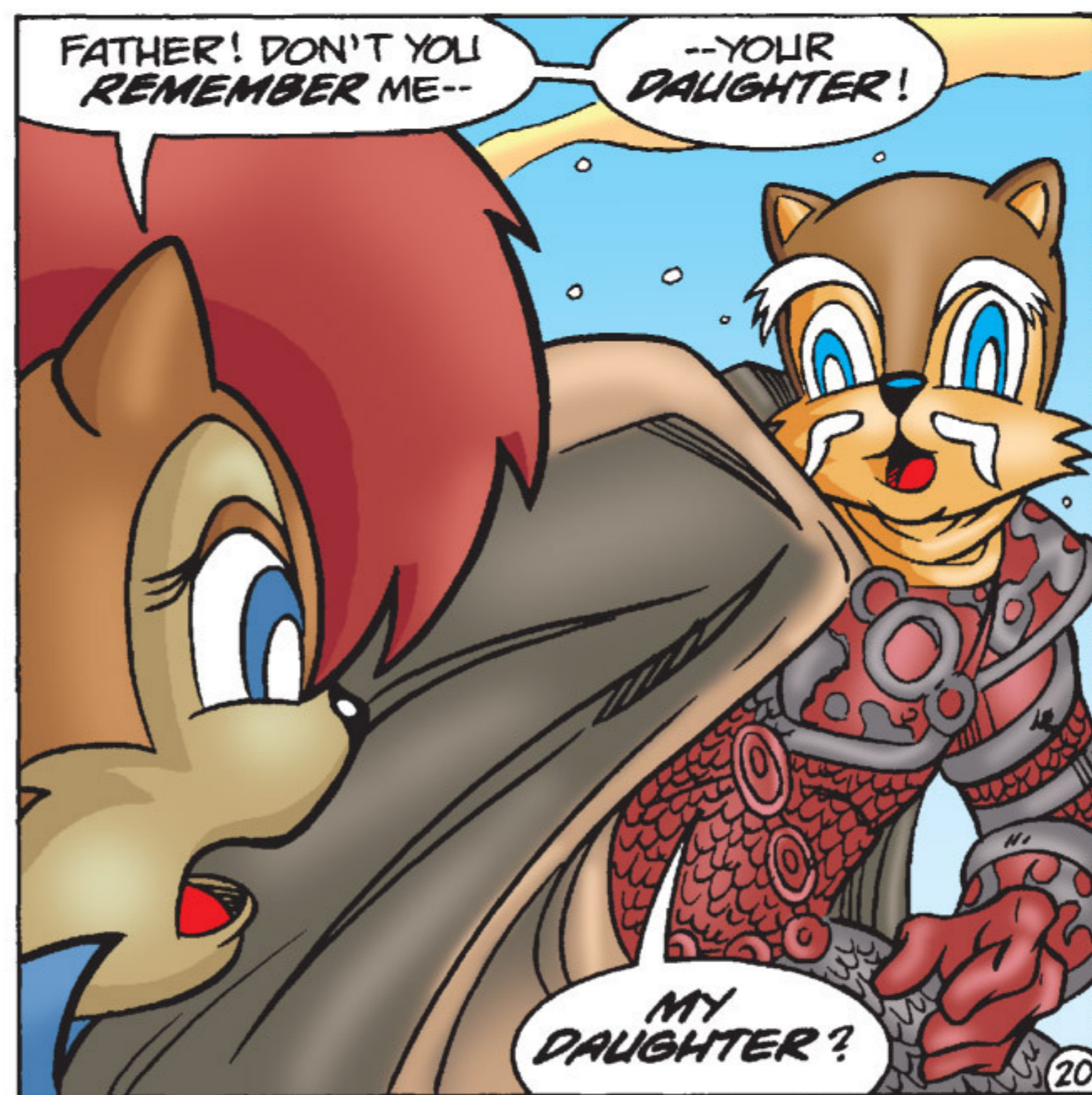
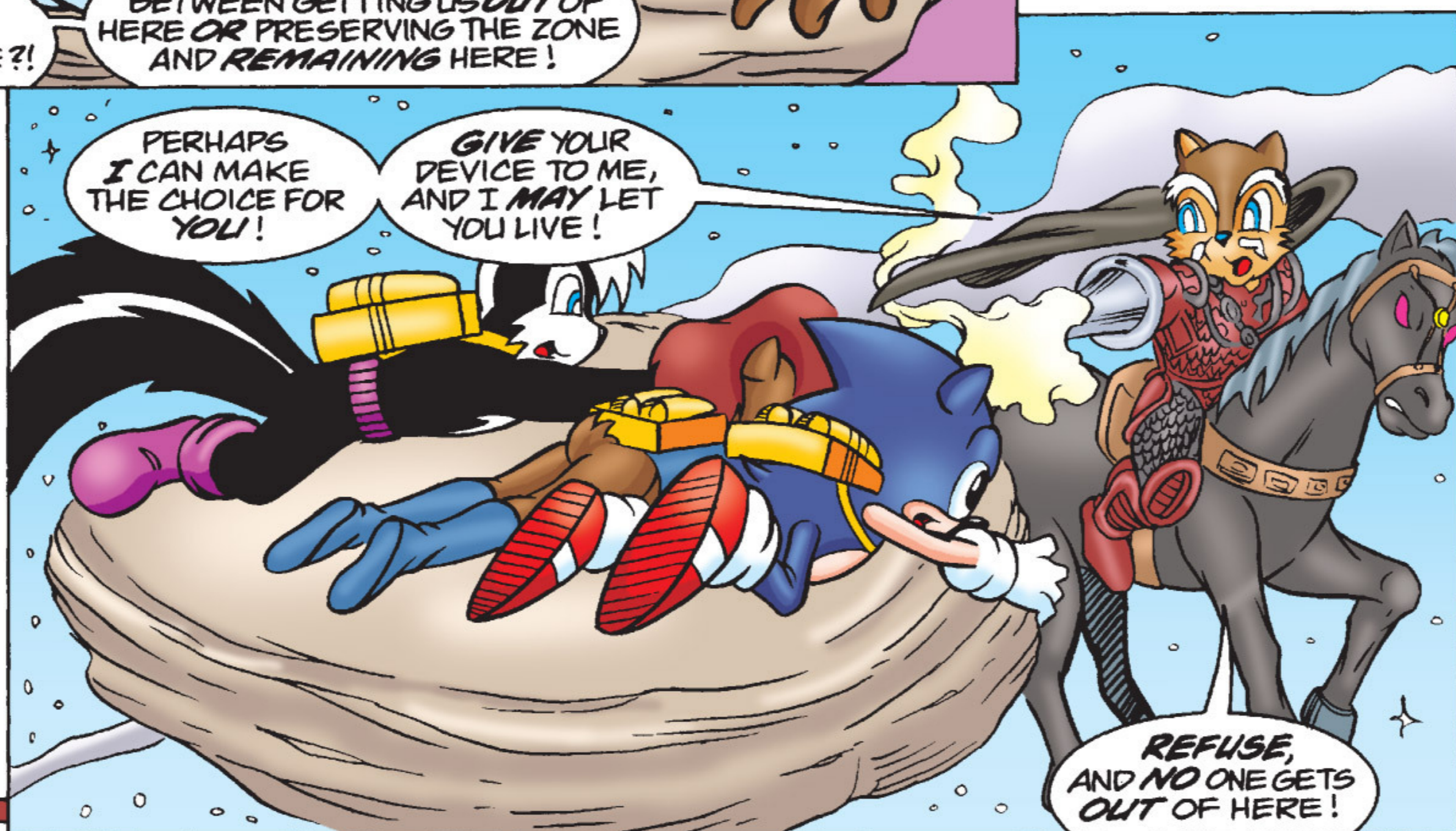
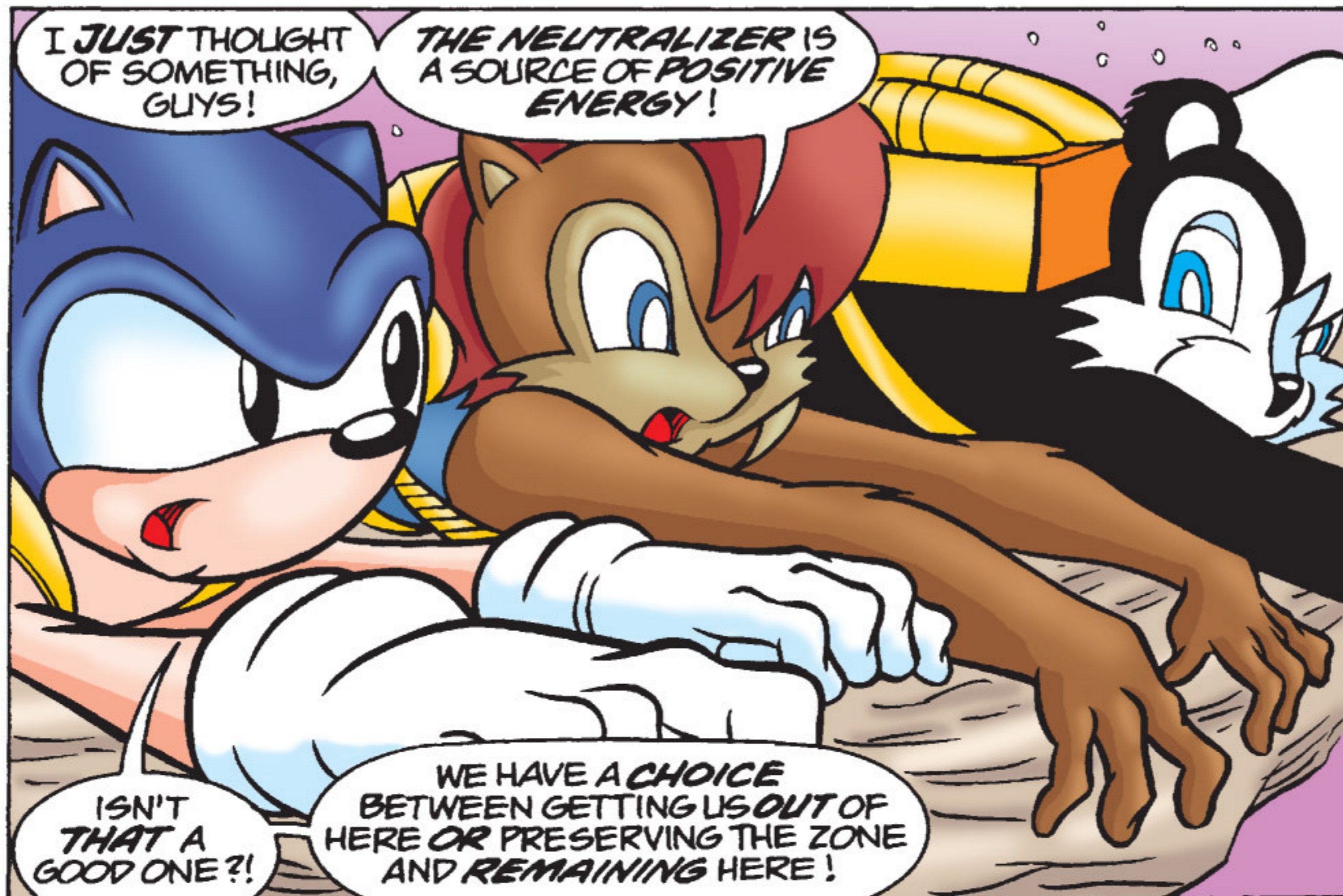
IT FIGURES.

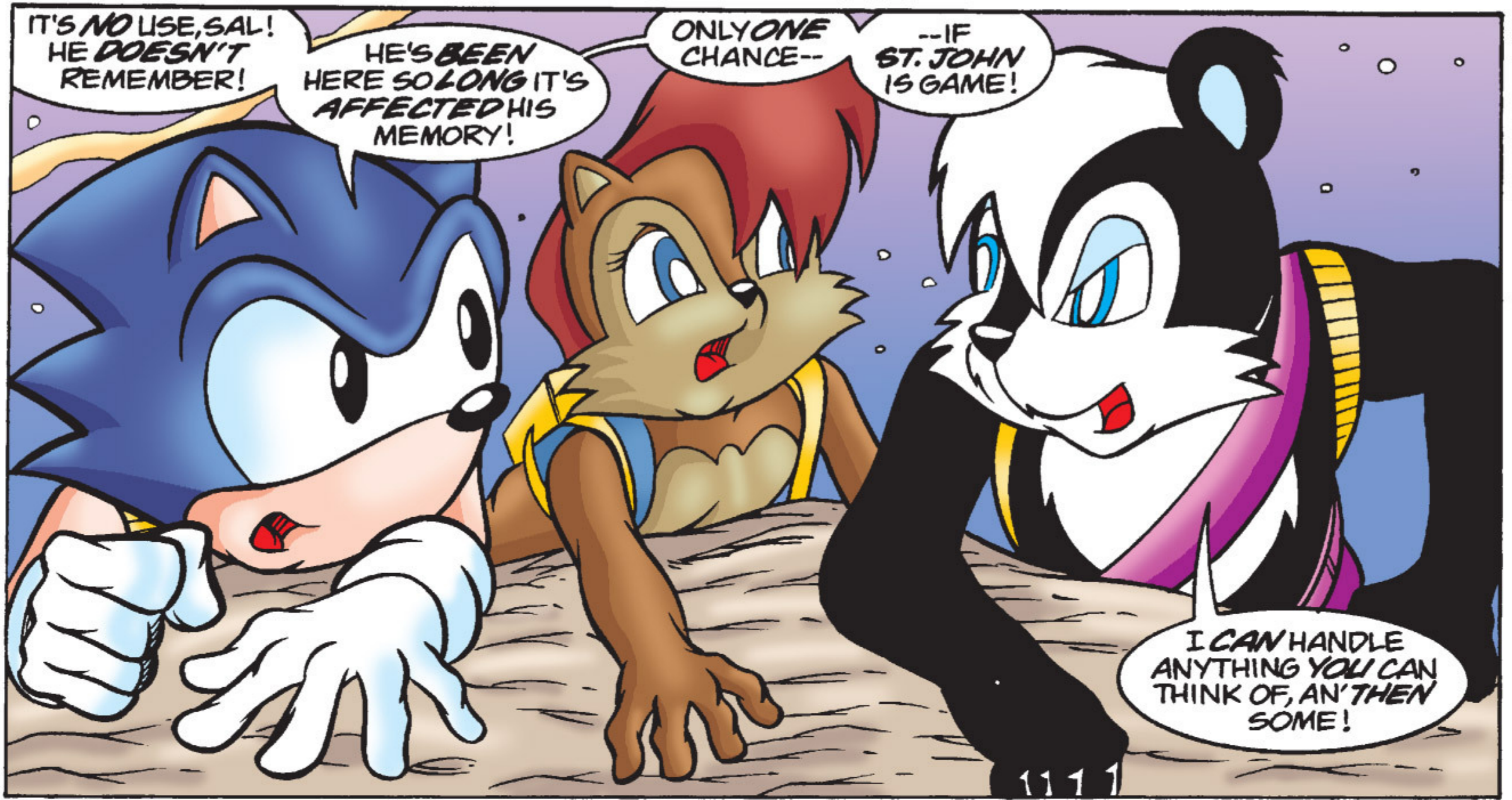
WAIT!
WHAT'S THAT?!

ONE THING'S FOR SURE--

--WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S GOT PLENTY O'COMPANY!

KING ACORN'S MINIONS! THEY'RE HEADING INTO THE WHIRLPOOL!





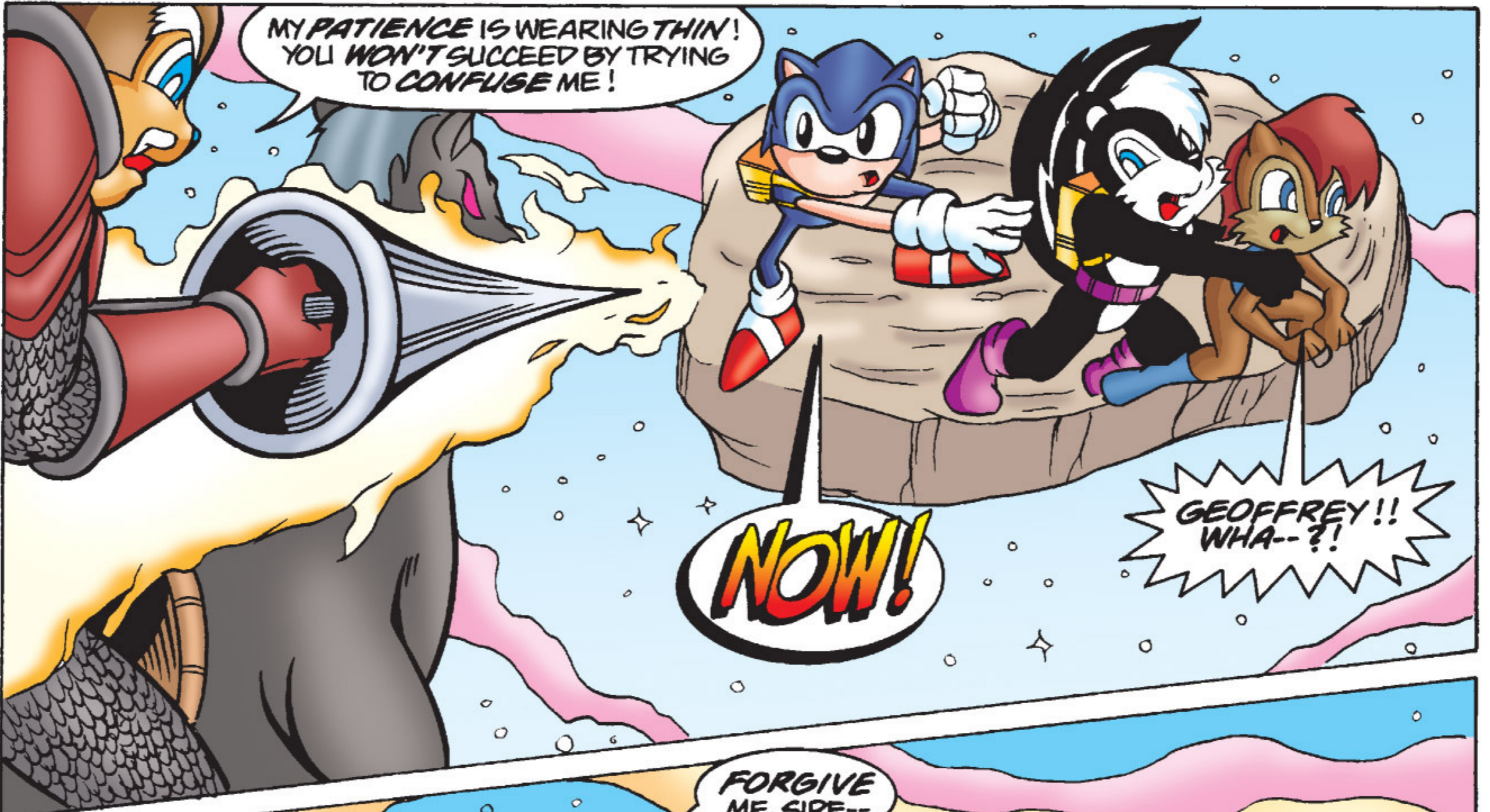
IT'S NO USE, SAL!
HE DOESN'T
REMEMBER!

HE'S BEEN
HERE SO LONG IT'S
AFFECTED HIS
MEMORY!

ONLY ONE
CHANCE--

--IF
ST. JOHN
IS GAME!

I CAN HANDLE
ANYTHING YOU CAN
THINK OF, AN'THEN
SOME!



MY PATIENCE IS WEARING THIN!
YOU WON'T SUCCEED BY TRYING
TO CONFUSE ME!

NOW!

GEOFFREY!!
WHA--?!

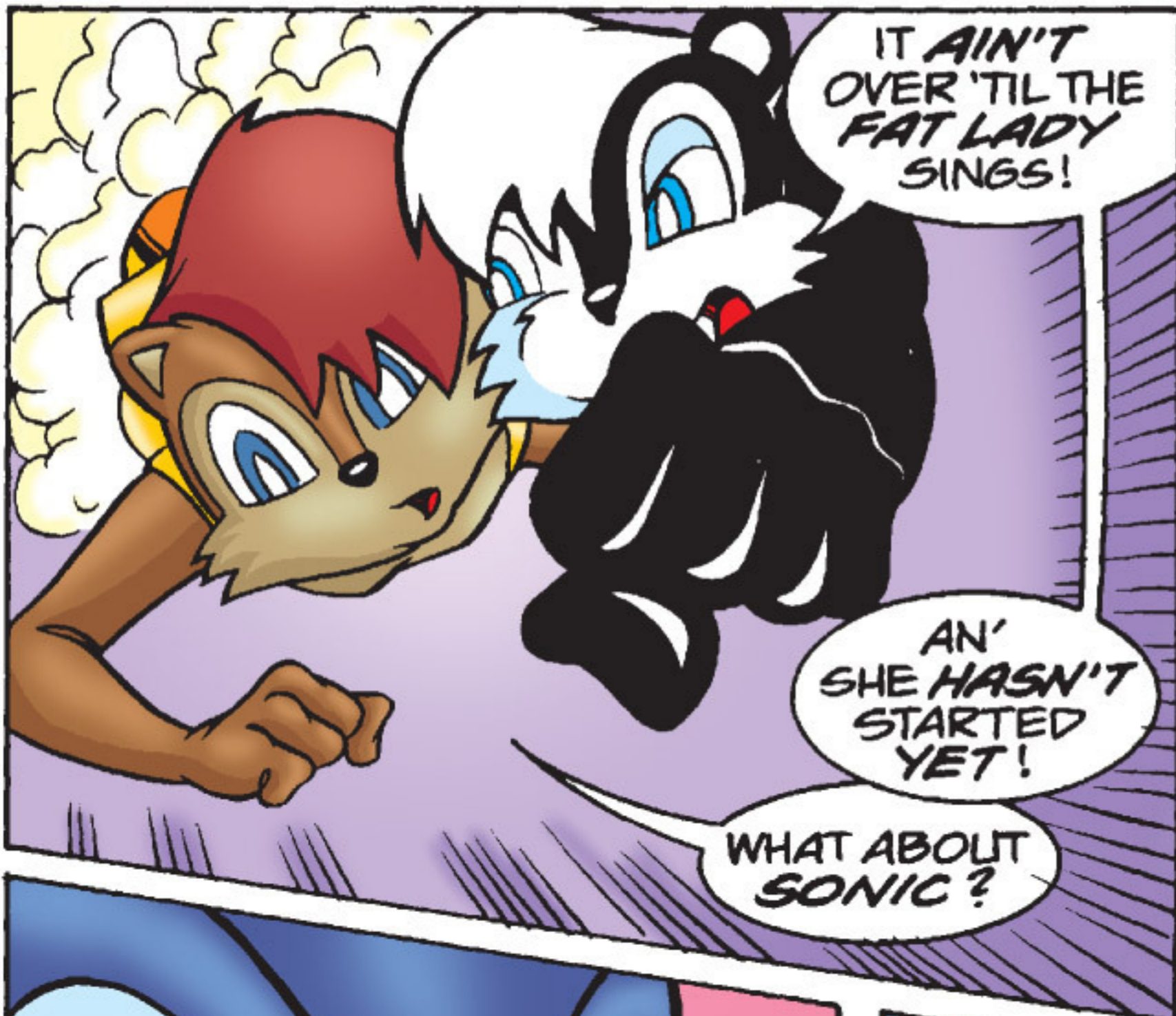


FORGIVE
ME, SIRE--

--I'M NOT SURE
SALLY WILL AFTER
THIS!

GEOFFREY!
YOU'RE USING
THE NEUTRALIZER
TO POWER MY
JET PACK!

WHAT ABOUT THE
INHABITANTS OF
THIS ZONE?



IT AIN'T OVER 'TIL THE FAT LADY SINGS!

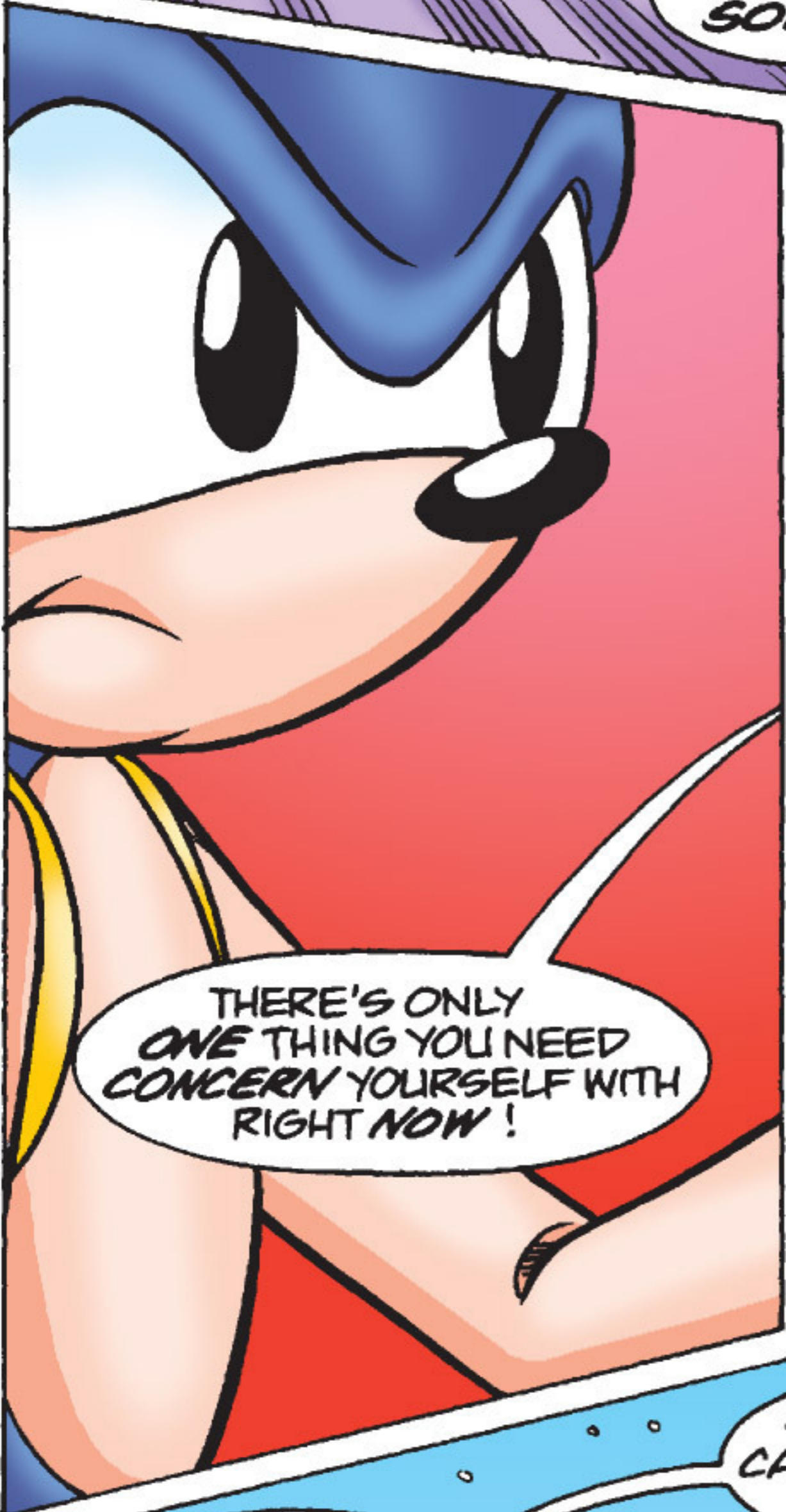
AN' SHE HASN'T STARTED YET!

WHAT ABOUT SONIC?

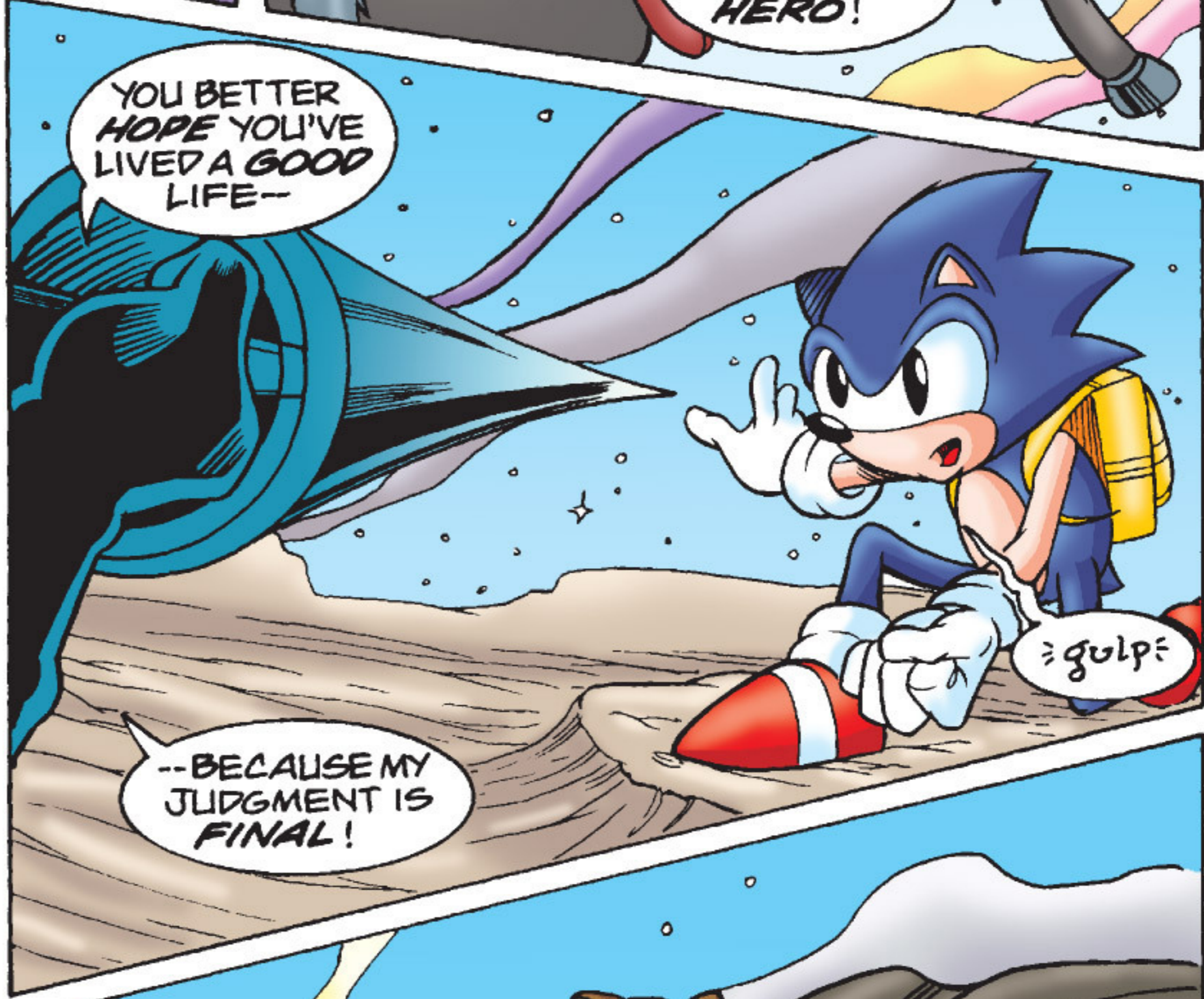


"HE'S A BIG BOY, LUV! HE'LL BE RIGHT FINE!"

MY! AREN'T WE THE HERO!



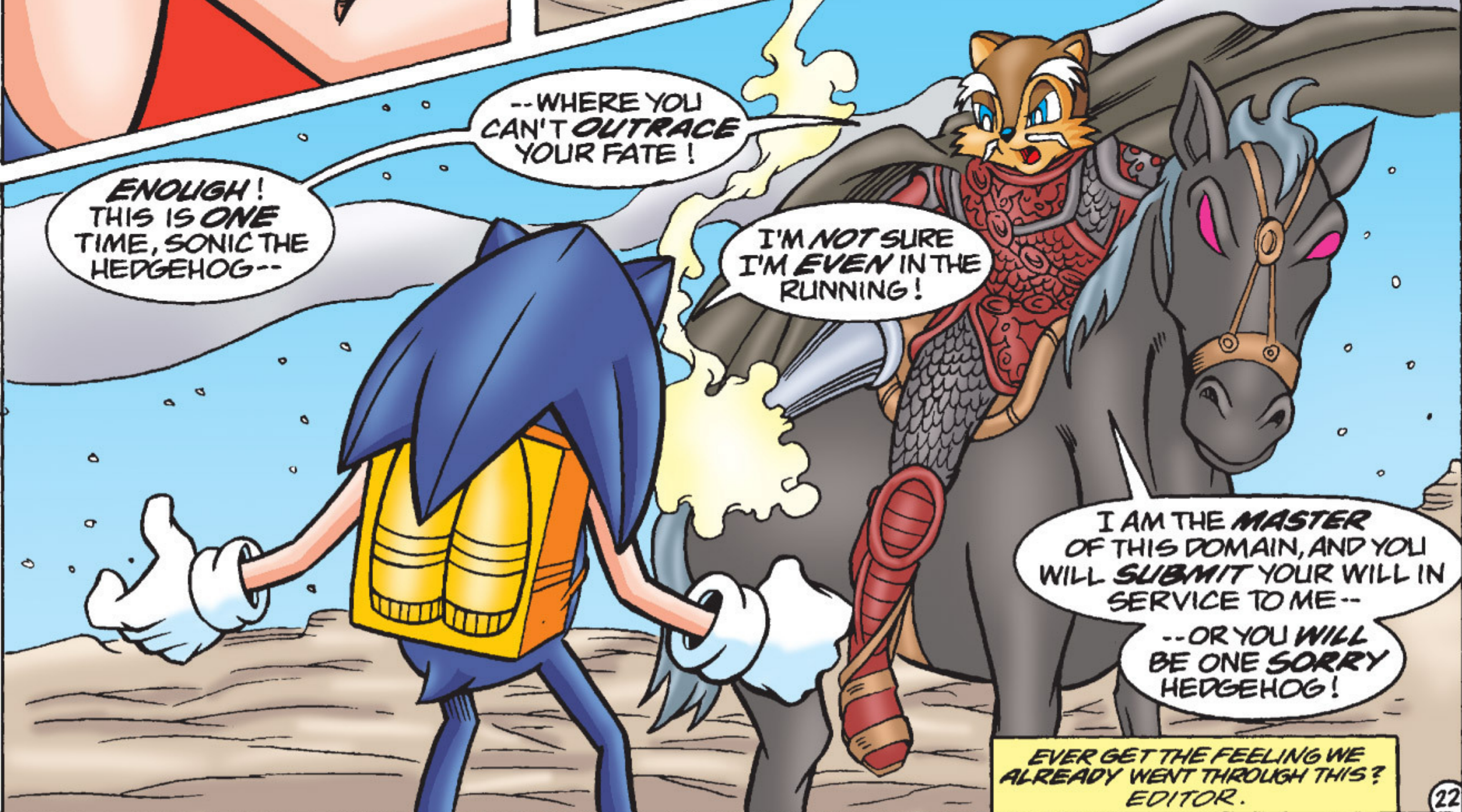
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING YOU NEED CONCERN YOURSELF WITH RIGHT NOW!



YOU BETTER HOPE YOU'VE LIVED A GOOD LIFE--

gulp

--BECAUSE MY JUDGMENT IS FINAL!



--WHERE YOU CAN'T OUTPACE YOUR FATE!

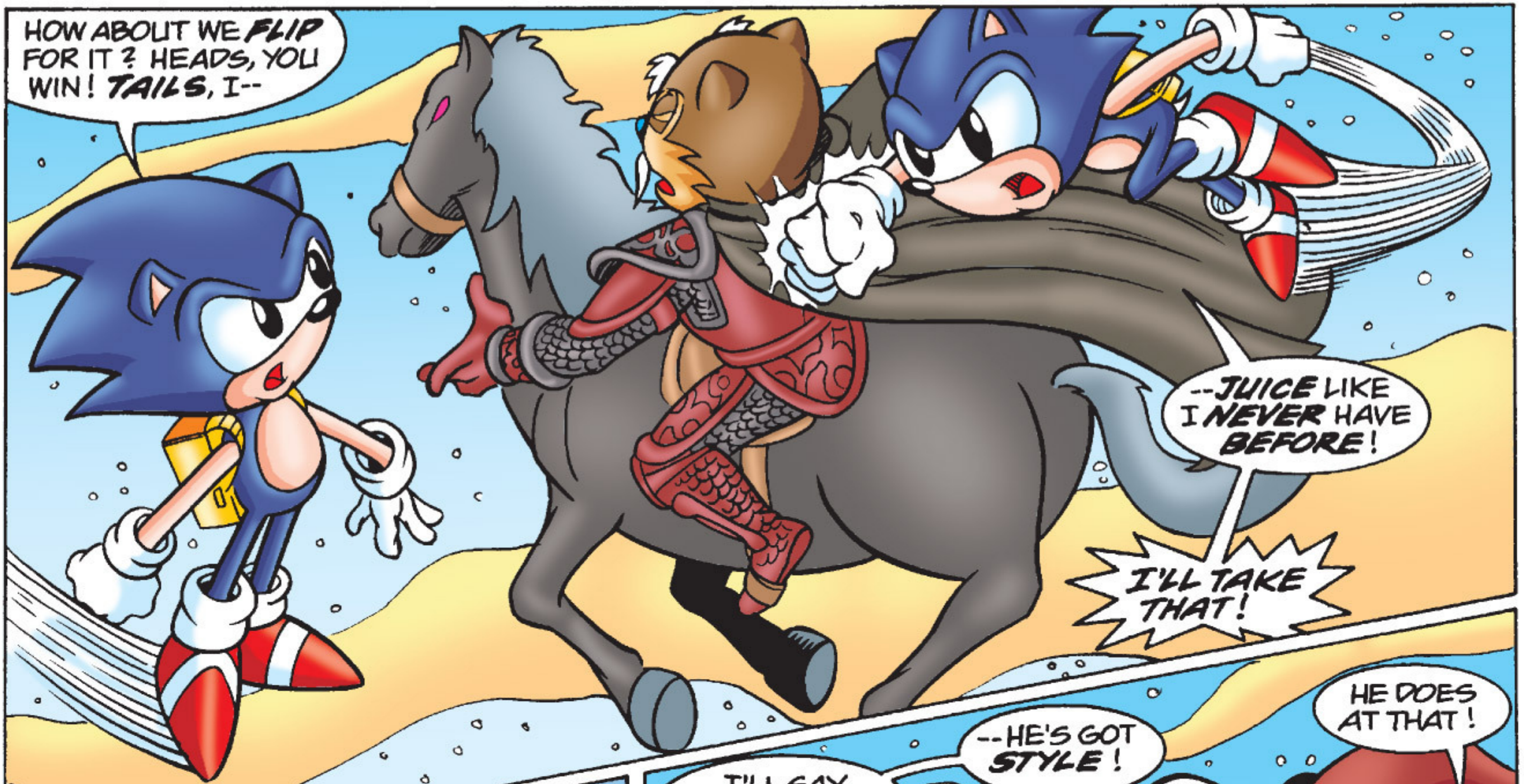
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ENOUGH! THIS IS ONE TIME, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG--

I AM THE MASTER OF THIS DOMAIN, AND YOU WILL SUBMIT YOUR WILL IN SERVICE TO ME--

--OR YOU WILL BE ONE SORRY HEDGEHOG!

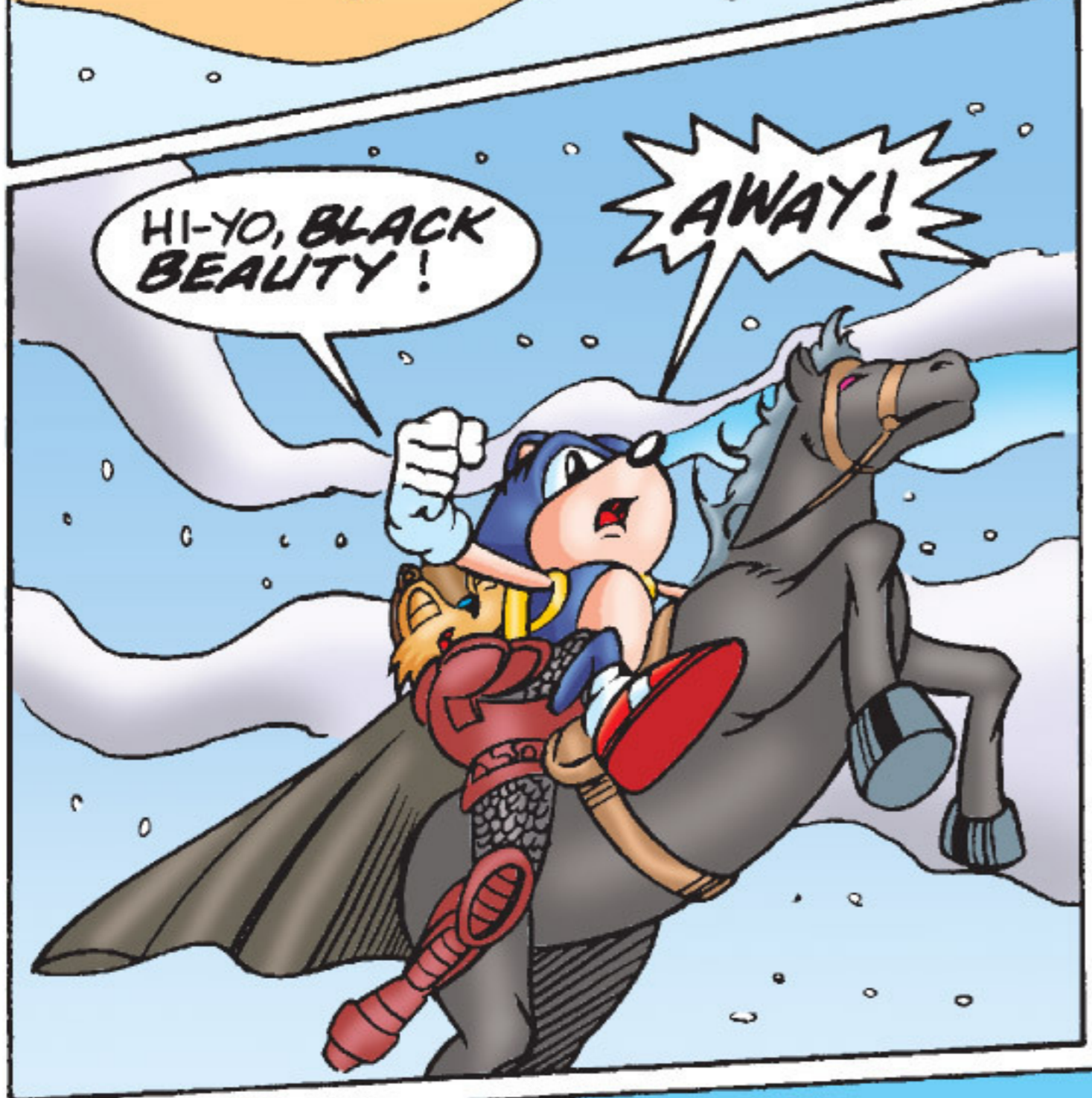
EVER GET THE FEELING WE ALREADY WENT THROUGH THIS? EDITOR.



HOW ABOUT WE **FLIP** FOR IT? HEADS, YOU WIN! **TAILS**, I--

--JUICE LIKE I NEVER HAVE BEFORE!

I'LL TAKE THAT!



HI-YO, **BLACK BEAUTY**!

AWAY!



I'LL SAY **THIS** FOR 'IM, PRINCESS--

--HE'S GOT **STYLE!**

HE DOES AT THAT!



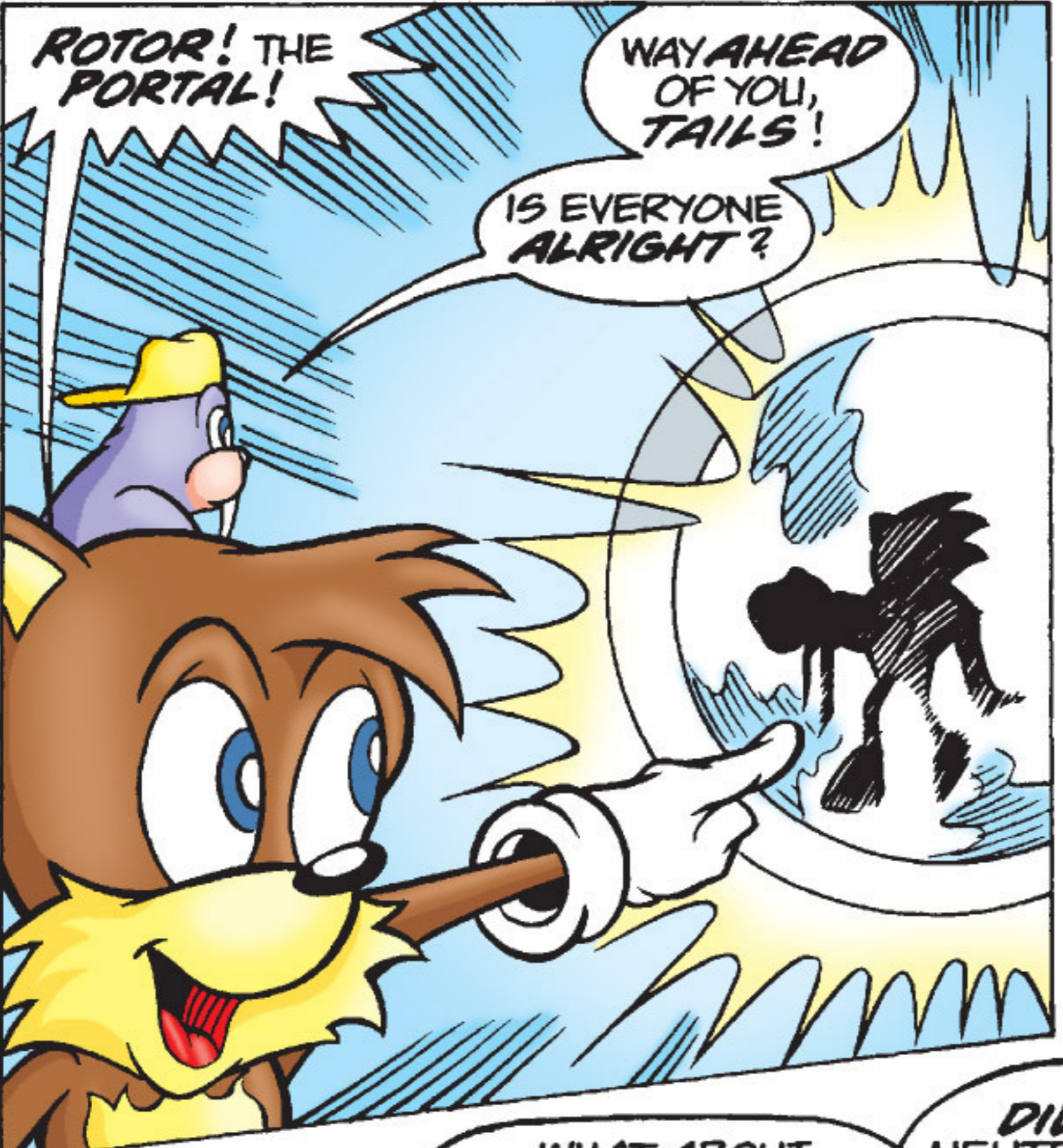
ACTIVATE THE **NEUTRALIZER**, ST. JOHN!

WE'VE A **UNIVERSE** TO SAVE!

ALL IN A **DAY'S** WORK, MATE!

READY OR NOT--

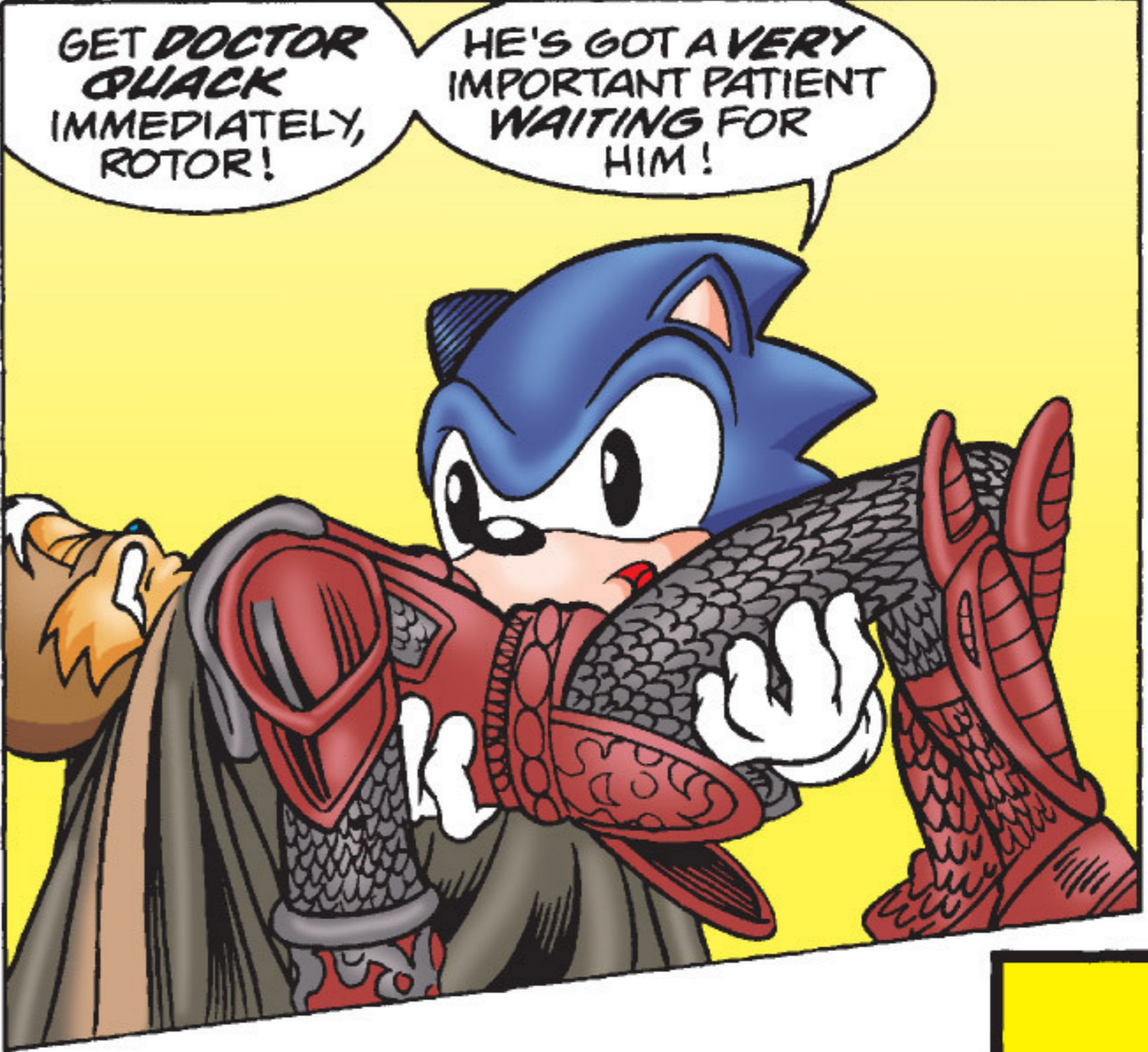
"--THIS ONE'S FOR ALL THE MARBLES!"



ROTOR! THE PORTAL!

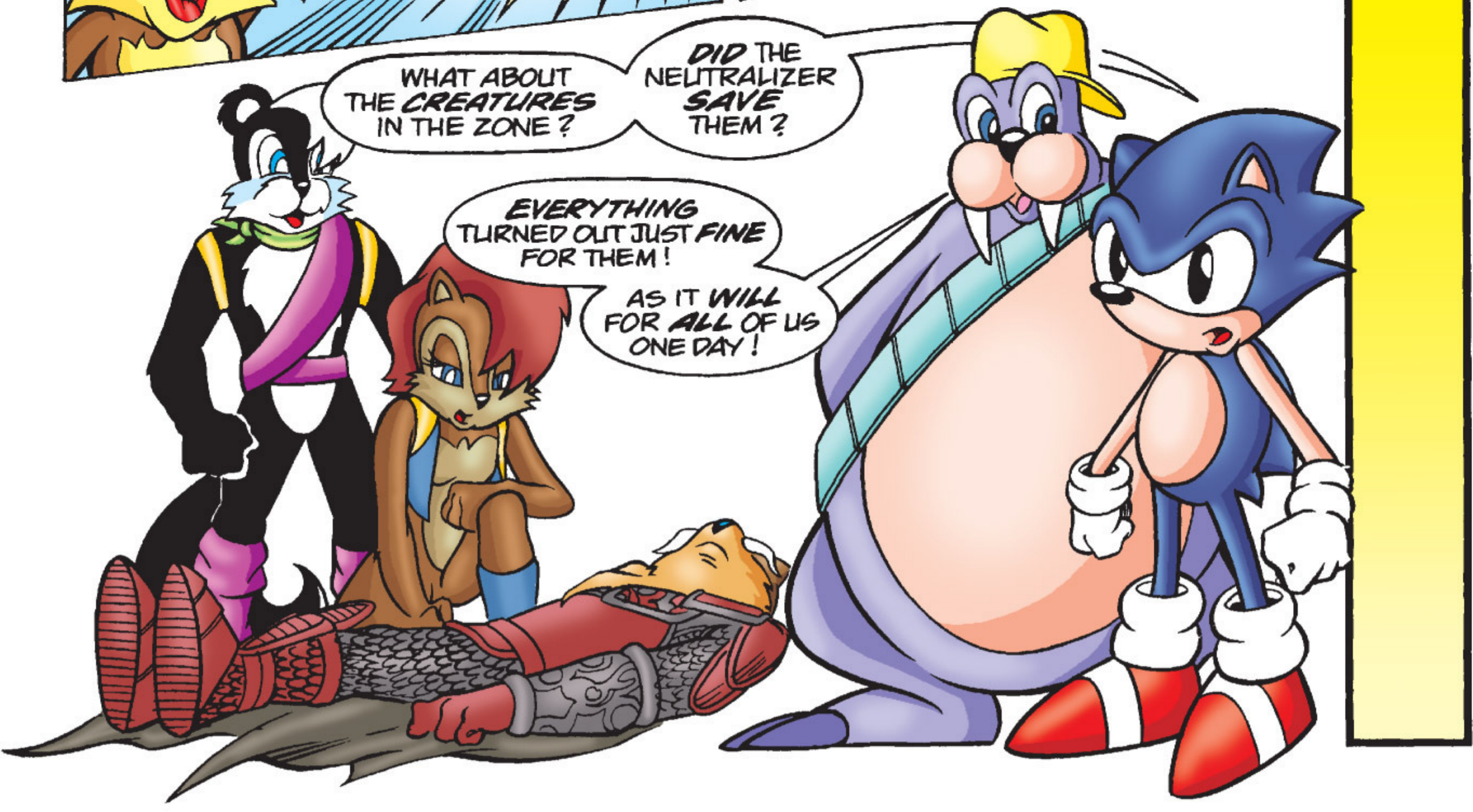
WAY AHEAD OF YOU, TAILS!

IS EVERYONE ALRIGHT?



GET DOCTOR QUACK IMMEDIATELY, ROTOR!

HE'S GOT A VERY IMPORTANT PATIENT WAITING FOR HIM!



WHAT ABOUT THE CREATURES IN THE ZONE?

DID THE NEUTRALIZER SAVE THEM?

EVERYTHING TURNED OUT JUST FINE FOR THEM!

AS IT WILL FOR ALL OF US ONE DAY!